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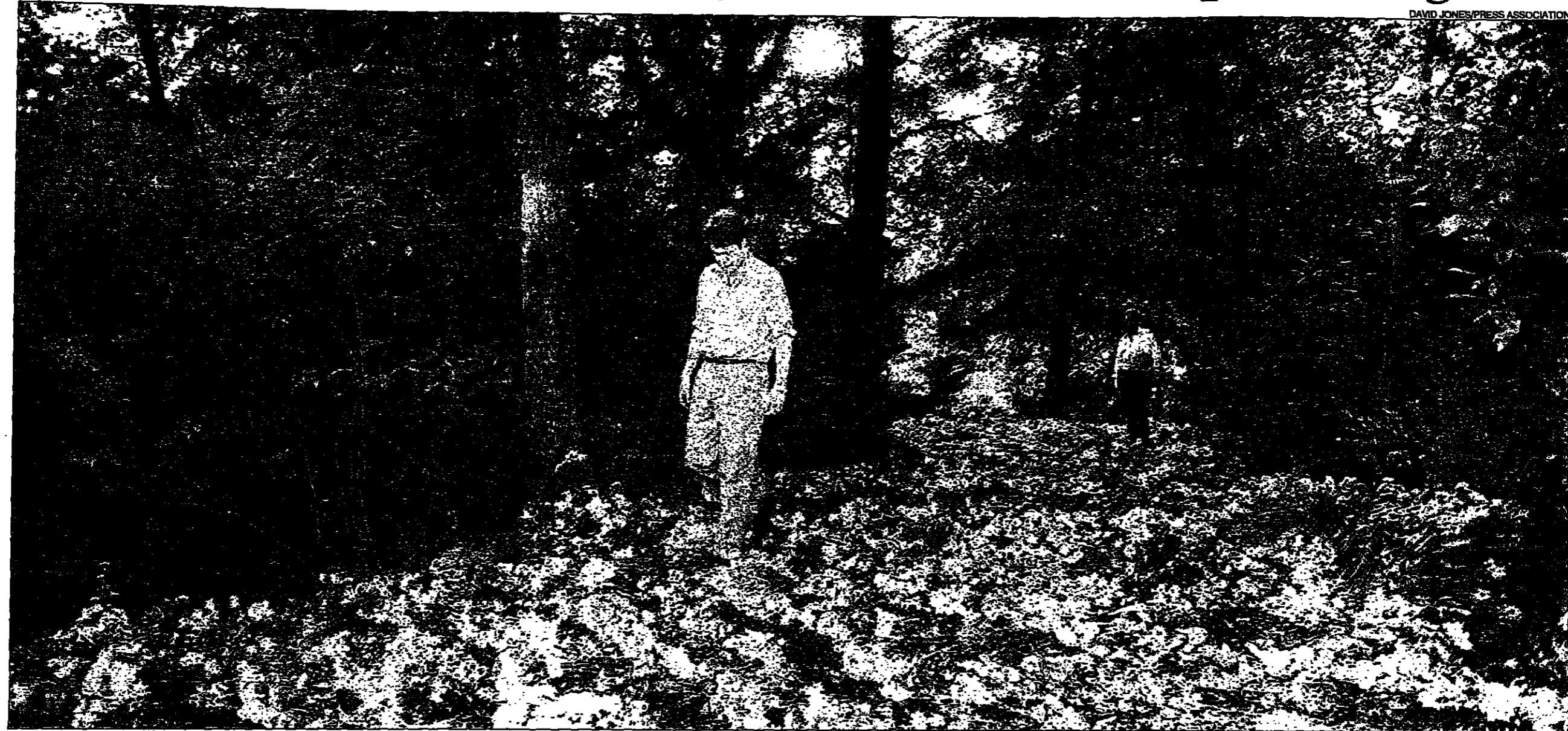
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 9 1997

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## People's flowers join family tributes at Althorp island grave



DAVID JONES/PRESS ASSOCIATION

Earl Spencer walking among the flowers that carpet a shrubbery near his sister's island grave. He and his staff spent hours unwrapping and moving the flowers from the gates at Althorp

## Palace denies royal dispute

BY ALAN HAMILTON, PHILIP WEBSTER AND DANIEL MCGROarty

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, Downing Street and Earl Spencer were united last night in angry denials of a report claiming a bitter dispute over the funeral arrangements for Diana, Princess of Wales.

Jon Snow had claimed on Channel 4 News that the Queen had stipulated that the Princess's body should not go to any of the royal palaces and that she should have a private, not a public funeral.

Her stance was said to have infuriated the Prince of Wales, who was reported to have sought the Prime Minister's help to overrule the Palace, resulting in the decision to allow the Princess's body to lie in the Chapel Royal at St James's Palace and to hold the funeral at Westminster Abbey.

Snow also claimed that the Prince had a blazing row with Sir Robert Fellowes, the Queen's private secretary — and his former wife's brother-in-law, suggesting at one point that he "impaled himself on his own flagstaff".

The report further depicted the Prince of Wales, Earl Spencer and the Prime Minister as being lined up against the Palace, and appeared to

reinforce the view that the Palace totally failed to read the public mood after the death of the Princess.

Earl Spencer was said to have been enraged by the suggestion that his sister should have a private funeral, a reaction that was said to have coloured subsequent relations with the Royal Family.

And the Prince of Wales was reported to have called the Prime Minister from the flight deck of the aircraft taking him to Paris to collect the Princess to ask him to intercede over the arrangements. Tony Blair was known to have favoured a substantial state occasion from the start.

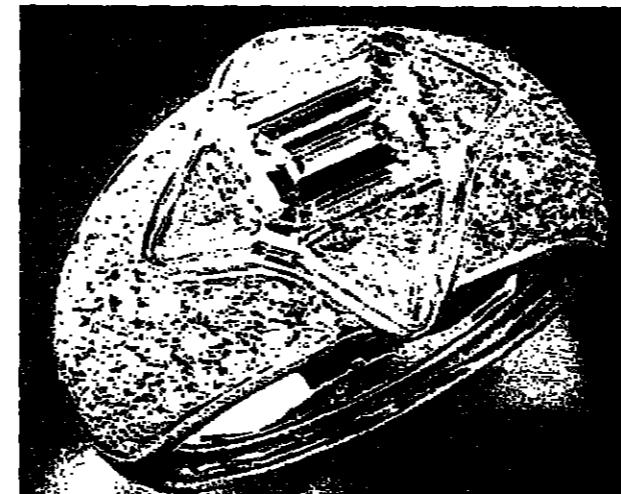
But the Palace last night dismissed the report in all its aspects. A spokesman said: "We can categorically say that this story is rubbish, and pure mischief-making. It is simply untrue. The funeral arrangements were made with the close co-operation of the Royal and Spencer families: there was no such dispute."

Lord Spencer matched the Palace with an equally vehement denial. "To suggest that there divisions between royal officials and me in the period

after my sister's death is so far from the truth as to be laughable. We were united in the aim of giving Diana a suitable funeral, and all arrangements up to and including the service were agreed amicably between the Lord Chamberlain's office and myself."

The Princess's brother added that arrangements for the funeral had gone very well. He dismissed as absolute rubbish another part of the television report suggesting the Duke of Edinburgh should walk behind the coffin on the last stage of its journey to the abbey: "It is clear that the walk was going to be an ordeal for the boys, and that they would be more comfortable if their grandfather were there. They would feel reassured."

Downing Street joined the chorus of denial. A spokesman said: "It is factually wrong to say that the Prime Minister spoke to Prince Charles when the Prince was on the flight deck of his plane to Paris. No such conversation took place. It is also wholly wrong to say that Downing Street was involved in any inter-family



The £130,000 diamond ring presented over dinner

negotiations. That simply did not happen."

The Palace did, however, confirm that Lord Spencer had firmly rejected any suggestion that his sister should have her royal title posthumously restored.

Within two hours of the funeral, in which the Earl said of his sister "she needed no royal title to continue to generate her particular brand of magic", he made clear to Sir Robert Fellowes that even if a posthumous restoration were offered, the Spencer family would not accept it.

The exchange took place on the train carrying family mourners to the Princess's private burial at Althorp.

A Palace spokesman said that the Spencer family had been consulted: "Their very firm view was that the Princess herself would not have wished for any change to the

style and title by which she was known at the time of her death. The Spencer family itself also did not wish for it to be changed."

Palace sources insisted that at no time had Sir Robert made any offer; the subject had been broached only because the Palace had had a number of calls from newspaper urging the Queen to restore the title. But there was little doubt that had the Earl wished it, the Queen would have given serious consideration to restoring the title, which the Princess surrendered voluntarily during her divorce negotiations.

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## Princess chose ring given on fatal night

BY BEN MACINTYRE AND STEPHEN FARRELL

A MONTE CARLO jeweller confirmed last night that Diana, Princess of Wales, had chosen the £130,000 diamond ring that Dodi Fayed presented to her on the night of their fatal car crash.

However, Alberto Repossi said he did not know if Mr Fayed intended it as an engagement ring as he never discussed such confidential matters with customers.

"These are the sort of intimate things of which one does not speak," said M Repossi, who also has a boutique opposite the Kitz Hotel in Paris's Place Vendôme.

The emerald-cut stone surrounded by four triangle diamonds was selected by the Princess in Monte Carlo and sent to Mr Fayed for presentation to her over dinner a few hours before the crash.

"I am deeply moved by the fact that this ring will be forever associated with the tragic love story of the Princess," M Repossi said.

The ring, found in the wreckage of the Mercedes, was part of a line of engagement jewellery named *Dis-moi oui*. It recently featured in an advertising campaign in society magazines under the slogan: "A little yes, for the happiest day of her life." M M Repossi is a third-generation

gem dealer whose grandfather opened the family's first shop in Italy in 1920. Jean Germer, of Hatton Diamonds in London, said that the central diamond alone could be up to three carats and worth £60,000.

She said: "It is more than a cluster, we would classify it as possibly a reproduction of an antique ring, they have this kind of look. It is a very fine piece."

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Blair appeal

Tony Blair pressed for a double "yes" vote in the Scottish devolution referendum campaign, telling people in Glasgow and Edinburgh that there was nothing to fear except fear itself. He urged supporters: "Have courage and keep the faith" — Page 8

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## Carey to defend unions' rights

BY PHILIP BASSETT  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Archbishop of Canterbury is expected to provoke political controversy today by publicly endorsing the Government's plans to grant statutory recognition to trade unions.

In the first speech by an Archbishop of Canterbury to a TUC conference, Dr George Carey will make clear that he backs the view of Roman Catholic bishops that workers have rights, including the right to join trade unions and to go on strike, and are not commodities to be bought and sold according to market requirements.

He is expected to say that it is not consistent with ecumenical Christian concerns for workers to be denied a say in decisions concerning them, or denied a right to be represented by a trade union of their choice.

He will tell the conference: "I believe that, in broad terms, employers have a

moral responsibility to recognise the chosen representatives of their employees." And he will go on to say that it is unjust when people suffer victimisation on grounds of their membership or taking part in "legitimate" union activities.

The Archbishop, who will mention his own past membership of two unions, will also spell out "fundamental values" that Christian churches have in common with trade unions.

His insistence that employers have a moral obligation to recognise trade unions comes after TUC named a number of companies it accused of refusing recognition in spite of their workers wanting unions.

The Prime Minister will also support the plans for recognition when he addresses the conference in Brighton later today. But yesterday he was accused of watering down a clear promise on job rights made by his predecessor John Smith.

John Edmonds, General Secretary of

the GMB general union, criticised the Government for coupling its proposal for union recognition with an insistence on maintaining Britain's economic competitiveness and on keeping a flexible labour market.

Tony Blair is insistent that Labour proposals on jobs must be compatible with employment flexibility. But the GMB leader told the TUC conference: "A flexible labour market? When I hear the Labour government using Tory phrases, I shiver a little."

In a clear reference to the Prime Minister, he said: "People who tell us that flexibility must be encouraged at all costs should not defend a law that makes working people who change jobs wait for two long years to achieve even the most modest protection against unfairness at

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# Academy artists call for Myra Hindley show to be scrapped



By DALYA ALBERGE  
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Royal Academy of Arts is facing a rebellion from its academicians over a decision to show a portrait of Myra Hindley, created by thousands of children's handprints.

The artist Craigie Aitchison has threatened to resign over the matter and others voiced disgust that the portrait of the Moors murderer is to be exhibited at a venerable institution such as the Royal Academy.

The issue will be debated at a general assembly of the academicians on Thursday. "It should never

have got this," Aitchison said. "It is a disgrace for the RA even to think of exhibiting the Hindley picture. I'm not going to be associated with a place that puts on that."

Referring to the RA's statement about being sympathetic to the wishes of the families of Hindley's victims, he said: "If this is true, why then is there any thought of exhibiting the picture?"

"The exhibition organiser should be asked to give up his job. I have considered resigning over it. It's better those responsible for it should do that."

The portrait, by Marcus Harvey,

hibits being loaned to the academy by the collector Charles Saatchi from September 18. *Sensation*, the title of the show of work by young British avant-garde artists, anticipates criticism. A sculpture using nine pints of an artist's blood and explicit mannequins are among works upsetting academicians who regard the academy as a bastion of tradition.

Winnie Johnson, the mother of one of the Moors victims, and Hindley herself have asked the RA not to show the picture.

Aitchison's views were echoed by fellow artist Anthony Green: "I wish that the academy had had nothing

to do with things that relate to Myra Hindley. It strikes me that we are not doing ourselves any great honour by being involved with Hindley mugshots when a child is still buried on the moors."

"This has nothing to do with art. This is bathing in the gutter. Others will say we're narrow-minded, bigoted old fools. I don't mind if they do. This is about common humanity and Christian decency."

Another academician, Philip Sutton, said: "I don't think it should be exhibited because of the families of the children. The question of artist freedom doesn't come into it. It's to do with human feelings about the

family. I don't feel it's a political clamping down on an artist. It's to do with human feelings. If the family object, I'm with the family. If it was one of my children, I would strongly object."

Norman Adams, Professor of Painting at the RA School, said: "It's a pretty disgusting exhibition because of its reliance on shock tactics. Apart from anything else, it's such an awful painting. I can't see what merit it has at all."

Edna Weiss, a member of the Reynolds Club, an association of former students of the Royal Academy Schools, said: "For the parents of the children, the question of artist freedom doesn't come into it. It's to do with human feelings about the

murder is not 100 years hence. This is too close to it. Hindley is still living and the parents are still around."

David Norris, chairman of the Reynolds Club, said: "As a matter of principle, if something is going to be so intrusive into the emotional life of the families, of course it shouldn't be there. It's capitalising on publicity. If it were of Joe Smith, it would attract no attention whatsoever artistically or in any other way. This is courting the emotions to gain publicity."

An RA spokeswoman said that a final decision would be made at the end of this week.

# Hume puts peace process before Irish presidency

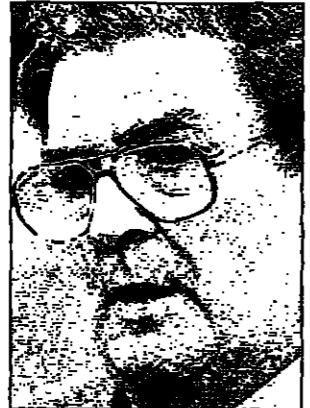
FROM MARTIN FLETCHER  
AND AUDREY MAGEE

JOHN HUME ended weeks of speculation last night by announcing that he would not stand in the election to succeed Mary Robinson as Ireland's next President.

The 60-year-old leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party ended weeks of speculation last night by saying that he had spent his adult life working to end the conflict in Northern Ireland and could not leave the peace process at this "very crucial stage".

Polls showed that Mr Hume was the overwhelming favourite. He was inundated with calls from the Republic urging him to stand, and Dublin's main parties would have backed him. However, the post would have prevented him joining the full-scale peace negotiations, beginning on Monday, which he has worked harder than anyone to broker.

Mr Hume, who is also an MEP, said it was a "very difficult decision". Other factors undoubtedly deterred him, though his statement did not mention them. He had no guarantee of an uncontested election because Albert Reynolds, the former Taoiseach, would not withdraw. Sinn Féin had an outside chance of winning the by-election for his Westminster seat, giving it



Hume: inundated with calls to stand

three MPs to the SDLP's two. Unionist hardliners might have turned the European by-election into a damaging referendum on the peace talks.

Sinn Féin will meanwhile fulfil the last condition for joining the negotiations this afternoon by formally committing itself to the six "Mitchell principles" of democracy and non-violence.

The three main Irish political parties — Fianna Fail, Fine Gael and Labour — had hoped to avoid an expensive and potentially politically damaging presidential election by putting Mr Hume forward as an agreed candidate.

All three parties want to avoid the embarrassment of losing an election, but the elimination of Mr Hume forces them to select candidates over the coming weeks and canvass for the election on October 30.

Mr Reynolds is now the bookmakers' favourite to win. However, the Fianna Fail leadership is reluctant to back him as it fears that he will not have enough electoral support, particularly in Dublin, where anti-Reynolds sentiments are strong. Michael O'Kennedy, a former Fianna Fail minister, is currently the

whether to attend the negotiations with Sinn Féin. The party is deeply divided on the issue and is expected to agree only to proximity talks, not face-to-face negotiations. The smaller Democratic Unionist and UK Unionist parties have already left the peace process.

Mr Hume's decision not to stand for the Irish presidency throws the Republic's political parties into turmoil as they struggle to find a successor to Mrs Robinson, who leaves office on Friday to become the United Nations Human Rights Commissioner.

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party's only alternative but is not considered strong enough to beat Mr Reynolds at next week's selection meeting.

Fine Gael, meanwhile, must decide between Mary Banotti, an MEP who spends most of her life in Brussels and Strasbourg, and Avril Doyle, who lost her Dail seat in the June

election. Labour, which

backed Mrs Robinson in 1990,

does not have any candidates as yet. David Norris, an independent senator and gay-rights activist, is seeking the party's nomination, but it is reluctant to back a gay man for President and may opt for Michael D. Higgins, the for-

mer Arts Minister. Dana, the former Eurovision Song Contest winner, is still battling for a nomination.

Mrs Robinson paid a final visit to Northern Ireland yesterday and insisted that peace was "within grasp" if the Province's politicians were willing to take risks.

Mary Robinson yesterday, during her last official visit to Belfast as Irish President

Continued from page 1  
spent several hours helping to move some of the many thousands of flowers from the front gates at Althorp to the island where her sister is buried.

The task began at first light after he decided that the flowers should be allowed to wither over time near the Princess's unmarked grave.

The tiny bouquet of white roses from Prince Harry that sat on the coffin with the poignant card saying "Mummy" has been placed alone on the grave. It, too, will be left untouched, as will the bouquets from Prince William, a spray of lilies from Lord Spencer and the tributes from the Prince of Wales and the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

A spokesman for the Spencer family said: "There is no intention of removing any of them after the flowers had wilted. It's ashes to ashes. They will stay there and help more flowers to grow one day around the grave."

The Earl was rowed out to the grave because he had ordered the temporary bridge used for her burial to be dismantled so that nobody can reach the island.

"He wanted his sister left in absolute peace and solitude. This way, no one can reach her grave," the spokesman said. When family members want to visit, they, too, will go by boat. When the Earl opens Althorp to the public, they will be permitted to walk only as far as the lake edge.

The photographer was not allowed near the Princess's grave, but simply shown a pathway that has been hacked through the shrubbery. By last night that pathway was entirely strewn with flowers.

The Earl, who was said to have remained "composed and reflective" as he helped to form the heart on the road outside the gates. Inside they were laid on tractor trailers and taken to the edge of the lake where the

spokesman said: "They are for the estate thanking people for their generous donation and explaining what has happened to their tributes."

## Palace denies royal dispute

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Law lords will sit in Hong Kong court

British judges are to play a key role in the Court of Appeal in Hong Kong. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Laird, said yesterday that two serving law lords will be made available to sit in the court, which has taken over from the Privy Council as the former colony's final appeal court.

The announcement, which will be widely welcomed by the legal profession in Hong Kong, was made after a meeting between the Lord Chancellor and the Chief Justice of Hong Kong, Andrew Li. The two law lords will form part of the Court of Appeal's non-permanent panel of judges and will strengthen the perceived independence of the court. The appointments will be made through the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Further talks will be held on the candidates. Lord Irvine is visiting Hong Kong, the first Cabinet minister to do so since its transfer to China.

### Lawyers' profits soar

Lawyers in the City of London have enjoyed their biggest earnings since the 1980s, with average profits per partner topping £500,000, according to a survey by *Legal Business* magazine. The biggest profits were at Clifford Chance, Linklaters & Paines, Freshfields, Allen & Overy and Slaughter and May, where turnover topped £1 billion. At Slaughter and May, average profits were £566,000, with top partners earning £700,000. Partners at some of the middle-sized firms took home as much as those in the top five.

### Donor boy helps seven

An eight-year-old boy who died from a brain haemorrhage has helped seven people by the donation of his organs. Aaron Bennett's mother, Angela, 37, of Wilsden, near Bradford, said: "We wanted to give someone else the chance from our loss." A three-year-old girl in King's College Hospital, London, received a liver, one kidney was given to a ten-year-old Nottingham girl and the other to a 54-year-old Sheffield woman. Two children will have his corneas to restore their sight and two will have his heart valves.

### Nuclear fire contract

The Atomic Energy Authority will disclose details this week of the contract to dismantle the damaged atomic reactor at Windscale, which has remained sealed since it caught fire 40 years ago. The fire at Windscale Atomic Works — now Sellafield — in October 1957 remains the worst nuclear accident in Britain. Fifteen tonnes of nuclear fuel are still in the structure. Andrew Munn, spokesman for the authority, said: "You cannot leave something like that forever and a day. This is a contract to do something about it."

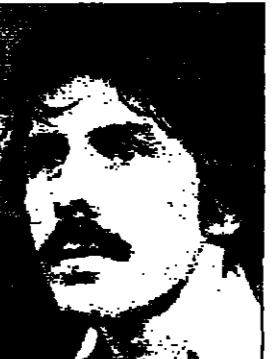
### ME charity's tutor fear

Only a quarter of tutors who teach sick children in their homes know anything about chronic fatigue syndrome, the condition which is responsible for more than half of long-term illness among teenagers, says Action for ME, the charity for sufferers from myalgic encephalomyelitis. It found that only 25 per cent of home tutors employed by 70 local education authorities had been told how the condition, which affects 25,000 children, hits memory and concentration. The charity has launched an information pack.

### Beatles publicist dies

Derek Taylor, the former publicist for The Beatles

who was responsible for many of the legends surrounding their career, has died. Mr Taylor, 65, worked with the group at the height of Beatlemania and ghost-wrote the autobiography of their manager Brian Epstein. He later became press officer for the ill-fated Apple record label. A private funeral will be held in Suffolk on Friday.



### Health inequality grows

The gap between the life expectancy of the wealthy and the poor is widening, according to a study. Men in the professional classes can expect to live to 75, compared with 70 for those at the bottom of society. Professional-class women have a life expectancy of 80, compared with 77 for the poor. The report, *Health Inequalities*, also shows that richer people are healthier. It will be used by Sir Donald Acheson, the former Chief Medical Officer, in drawing up a study for the Government on the consequences of poverty.

### Alzheimer's drug hope

Gene-testing for Alzheimer's disease could make the memory-loss illness preventable and curable within five years, according to leading a neurologist. Allen Roses, the vice-president of Glaxo Wellcome and a former professor of neurology at Duke University Medical Centre, North Carolina, told a conference in Australia that he believed within five years a new set of drugs would be under test which could prevent the disease occurring in people identified as being at risk.

### Carey will defend unions' rights

Continued from page 1  
work." Changes to employment law made by the Conservative Government extended the qualifying period for employment protection to employees with two years' service or more.

Mr Edmonds said that politicians reluctant to change the two-year rule had claimed that to do so would discourage job creation. He said: "They give us a choice between unemployment and unfairness. Thank God life is not like that."

He explicitly recalled Mr Smith's 1993 promise of universal rights at work for day one for all employees.

Praising Mr Smith as a

politician who got the issue

right rather than someone

who made a "spurious show".

Mr Edmonds said: "Not a

waiting period which gives the

bad employer an interlude to

pressurise and bully. Protection from the first minute of the first day of the first week of

employment."

And rejecting any compro-

mise of making unfair dis-

missal rights applicable after

a year or six months — as had

been suggested during the

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# Ofsted pulls plug on Uncle Brian

Inspectors criticise school over 'sexist' science game and for sport during break-time, reports David Charter

VILLAGE youngsters were happy when their primary school used a children's entertainer to teach them about electricity in a fun way. Uncle Brian lined up a group of four boys and a group of four girls, then they held hands to complete a circuit so that a weak current could light a bulb.

Weeks later, the school found that the lesson had been condemned by a school inspector. The problem was not the teaching method but "practices which reinforce gender divisions". The boys and girls, said an official report, should have been in mixed-sex groups.

That was not all. Brompton and Sawdon Primary School, near Scarborough in North Yorkshire, which has been praised by the local secondary head teacher for high standards in English and mathematics, was also criticised for running "competitive" team sports at breaktime and for failing to give children in an all-white community an "appreciation of the multicultural nature of Britain".

Yesterday the inspection agency Ofsted was handling an official complaint from the school about "political correctness" after a meeting of angry parents heard that the school had failed its inspection.

Governors accepted criticisms that lessons for five to seven-year-olds were poorly planned, but fiercely chafed

lenged other conclusions. The lead inspector, Keith Wallace, said the 39-pupil school for children aged 5 to 11 was not making boys and girls work in mixed groups: "Apart from the very youngest children, pupils are only prepared to work in single-sex groups and this is not challenged by teachers."

The school's emphasis on playing team games at breaktimes was criticised for having a "negative influence on the social development of pupils and is overdependent upon the head teacher to organise it". Elsewhere, the school is praised for its "high standards" in sport.

Mark Evans, the chairman of governors, said he was upset by the approach used by the inspectors, especially over Uncle Brian. "I think this was the result of an unlucky misunderstanding illustrating the old saying 'No good deed ever goes unpunished'."

The entertainer - real name David Reid-Frow - is the son of a school governor. Mr Evans said: "He offered to do some simple experiments with the children to illustrate electricity. Four boys and four girls stood in a line with a battery and had to connect it to a battery and make a light come on. Because it was not two boys and two girls in each team, we were criticised."

The school was also condemned for not encouraging the pupils to explore their



David Reid-Frow's work as Uncle Brian was criticised for "reinforcing gender division" through dividing a group into boys and girls

he came in with the best of interests. I am sure the children enjoyed it greatly. Boys and girls mix perfectly naturally here, they play together at break and treat each other well."

The school was also condemned for not encouraging the pupils to explore their

cultural heritage or to have an appreciation of the multicultural nature of Britain". Mr Evans said: "I recognise the inspector has a job to do and she found fault with some of the teaching. That is fair. But this implies, because we are basically an all-white part of the country, that no one is

interested in anything else other than the history of North Yorkshire, which is not the case. We teach the national curriculum in full."

Brenda Frow, mother of the entertainer, said: "There are only 11 children in the infant class. My son chose the children he felt would be helpful to

him, those who wanted to be involved. It is just the way it happened."

A spokesman for Ofsted said: "We cannot comment on the detail of the report. We have no doubt that the essential judgment that the school is failing is correct, but we acknowledge the school has

registered a complaint, which will be investigated."

He said the findings criticised as "politically correct" would not, on their own, have led to the school failing. "They are not fundamental. What is important is the quality of teaching and learning, and the progress pupils are making."

**Bernard heads for the final furlong**

JEFFREY BERNARD, whose third favourite occupation after drink and sex was gambling on horses, is to have his ashes buried at the Gallops, the training ground at Lambourn, Berkshire.

The decision has been taken by the two brothers of the 65-year-old Soho habitué and *Spectator* columnist, who died on Thursday. It has yet to be agreed by Lambourn officials.

Oliver Bernard, 71, who was the eldest brother, said: "He lived near there, he loved the place - it's very beautiful - and he had some very good friends there among the trainers and jockeys. There's no room to bury him in Soho."

"It's just a question of getting hold of a trainer who was a particular mate of Jeffrey's and ensuring he arranges it."

He said that his brother, who wrote for *The Sporting Life* before being sacked for an indiscretion at a race meeting, was not particularly successful at backing horses.

Last year the writer netted £800 after backing the Grand National winner Lord Gyllene at 14-1. But his gambling proved costly in 1986 when he was fined £200 for running an illicit book at the Coach and Horses, the Soho pub that he frequented.

The burial of the urn is planned for Friday after a service at West London Crematorium in Kensal Green. There will be no officiating priest. "He had no interest in organised religion," said his brother.

## Woman stabbed on common 'knew her killer'

By PAUL WILKINSON



Rachel Barracough: regular churchgoer

A TEENAGER stabbed to death on a common probably knew her killer, police said yesterday.

Rachel Barracough, 18, described as a shy churchgoing young woman, died from wounds inflicted with a 3in knife. Her body was discovered on Sunday night, 24 hours after she left home for a night out with friends in Wakefield, west Yorkshire. Three men out for a walk found her body on Heath Common on the outskirts of the city.

Police were yesterday unclear about the motive for the killing. She was fully clothed and had not been sexually assaulted, but had no money on her.

Detective Superintendent John Holt, leading the murder hunt, described her death as an "exceptionally violent murder" and said the person responsible was capable of doing it again and must be considered "extremely dangerous".

He said: "I believe she was comfortable in the company of the person responsible for this horrific attack. Although she went willingly to Heath Common, we do know that she put up a struggle. She has received a number of defence wounds to her hands. There is a possibility that her attacker might have received some sort of injury, either from Rachel trying to defend herself, or he may have been injured during the course of the attack."

Miss Barracough, from Bradford, was last seen by the taxi driver who dropped her off at Bradford Interchange railway station on Friday night to catch a bus to Wakefield. When her body was found she was wearing her disco clothes: a short, black satin skirt, a burgundy blouse and a black bomber jacket with an "au fait" collar.

Mr Holt said he believed

Rachel had not been abducted and dumped but died at the scene, 40 yards from the nearest path and a mile from the nearest road. The common is popular with joggers and people walking their dogs. The murder weapon has not been found.

He described the victim as a normal, attractive 18-year-old girl, "full of life", who was a regular member of her local church. He appealed for anyone who saw her to come forward so they could piece together her final hours.

Yesterday her father, Malcolm Barracough, a maintenance engineer, and her mother, Hilary, were too distressed to appear at a press conference.

## Years of guilt led murderer to confess

By ADAM FRESCO

SEVEN years ago, Andrew Aiken took a 4lb hammer and battered to death a friend after a drunken argument. Yesterday a court was told that he had wandered the globe, "tormented by guilt", until he could stand it no more and flew home to Britain, where he confessed to police and begged for the death penalty.

Aiken, who represented himself in court, killed Lawrence McDonagh, aged in his 40s or 50s, at their squat in Hackney, East London, in 1990. He dragged the body into the cellar and buried it in a sleeping bag. Friends, unaware that the body was underfoot, helped him to concrete over the floor.

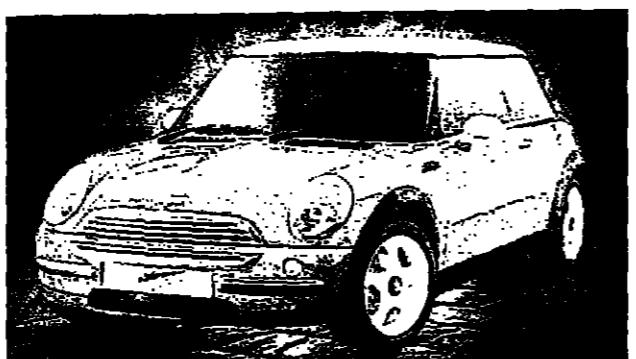
Shortly after the murder of the busker he had met at a London Tube station, Aiken left the country, the Old Bailey was told. He ended up in Picton, south of Sydney, Australia, and joined a group called the Community Apostolic Church and told them his story. They persuaded him to give himself up and in June this year he returned to Britain. He was met at Heathrow in June by a member of the church from Kent who helped him to type his confession.

Brian Altman, for the prosecution, said: "He asked for his life to be taken in an exception to what he described as the current insufficient punishment."

On June 5 this year Aiken went to Scotland Yard and led officers to the body. Judge Clive Tayler, QC, adjourned sentencing until Friday for psychiatric reports.

## Brief encounter with new Mini shows minor change

By KEVIN EASON  
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT



Rover's new Mini has strong links with the original

THE Mini for the next century broke cover last night - and it looks like a Mini. Rover was allowed to show the successor to Britain's best-selling car, but only for a few seconds, by the company's owners, BMW.

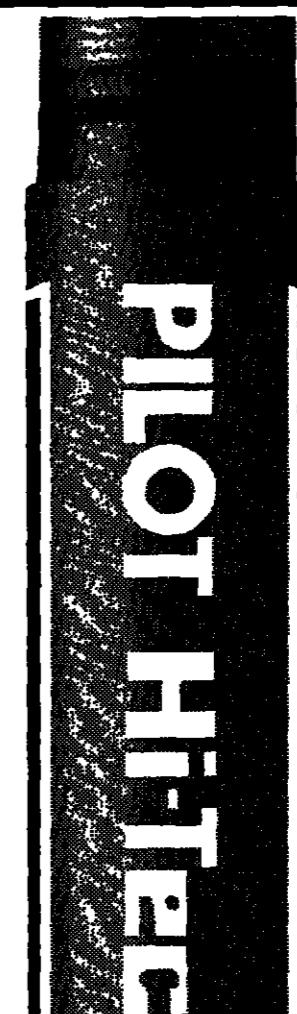
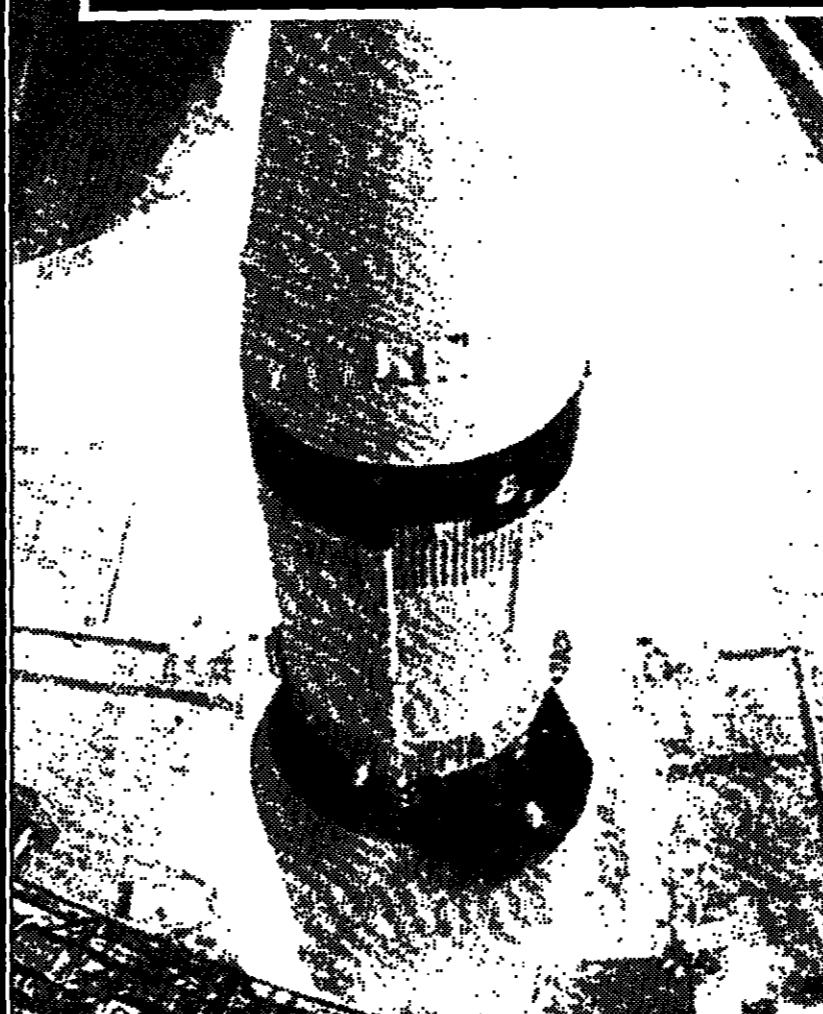
The fleeting glimpse was enough to allay fears that the new Mini would be a radically styled, bug-eyed car. The next Mini will look very like the 10ft box on wheels designed 40 years ago by Sir Alec Issigonis. Rover's designers have cleverly incorporated modern styling cues into the familiar Mini shape, dictated by the fact that the car will not follow the fashion among competitors for moving the engine further back.

The engine will stay under the bonnet, where Sir Alec originally put it, placed sideways and powering the front

wheels. But the car will be slightly longer than the original, roomier and safer. It will also be "unashamedly sporty", according to Rover.

The Mini will be Rover's most important car for the next century, replacing the current model and the Metro (now badged 100) and with potential sales at more than 100,000 a year.

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# 'No such dispute': events that led to claims of a royal row

Damian Whitworth sifts facts from speculation in a momentous week

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, Earl Spencer and Channel 4 gave different accounts of the days that preceded the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales. The undisputed events are as follows:

The fatal crash occurred at 12.25am on Sunday. Within an hour a telephone call woke staff at Balmoral who in turn roused the Prince of Wales and the Queen. The Prime Minister, asleep in his Sedgfield constituency, was woken at 2am.

Within minutes of the Princess's death, just before 4am, the Prince of Wales was informed. A newsflash from the Press Association told the world at 4.41am and at 5.09 the television news bulletins reported a short statement issued by Buckingham Palace: "The Queen and the Prince of Wales are deeply shocked and distressed by the terrible news."

According to last night's programme, there is said to have been conflict already within the Royal Family over the dead Princess. At 9.30am

Mr Blair spoke to the Queen and the Prince of Wales by telephone to offer his condolences. He would not be called upon to intervene over the funeral until later.

It was to be expected that the Palace was in a state of confusion over the status and style of the funeral because the divorced wife of a Prince of Wales defied traditional protocol. According to Channel 4, which said its report last night was based on information from high-level official sources, Earl Spencer was "enraged" by the suggestion that his sister should have a private funeral. This reaction was said to have coloured subsequent relations between him and the Royal Family. Only Downing Street had been able to restore any relations between the two families.

At 11am the Prime Minister spoke to the nation on his way to church. He spoke for the country when he said that Diana was the People's Princess.



Prince Charles was said to have argued with Sir Robert Fellowes over the plans for Diana's funeral

cess. Nothing was said about funeral plans. The programme last night said initial discussions had involved the Queen, Prince Philip, Sir Robert Fellowes, the Queen's private secretary, and Prince Charles. It was made clear to Charles that Diana's body was not to be taken to any of the Royal palaces. Then, it is alleged, the family, including

Fellowes, the wife of Sir Robert.

They flew on a BAe146 aircraft of the Royal Squadron to a military airfield 30 minutes southwest of Paris. The Prince is said to have been forced to overrule palace officials who objected to a royal flight being used.

The programme said Prince Charles had been left to arrange the smallest of details on the day, even having to telephone ahead himself for the wreath.

Only an urgent telephone conversation between Tony Blair and the Prince of Wales, from the flight-deck of the plane taking Charles to Paris, resulted in the decision to allow Diana to lie in the Chapel Royal at St James's Palace, and for her to have a public funeral at Westminster Abbey, according to Channel 4 News.

This row, according to the programme, set the tone for a week in which eventually

Channel 4 maintained that the row had continued to undermine preparations for Saturday's funeral, with the issue of who would walk with the coffin into the abbey not resolved until less than an hour in advance.

Undeniably, there was confusion about who would walk behind the coffin, with the result that the Duke of Edinburgh's appearance with the three princes and the Earl was unexpected.

□ Additional reporting by Geoff King and Matthew Beard.



The Queen: reported to have sought private funeral

## Hague calls for Heathrow to be Diana Airport

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT AND PHILIP WEBSTER

A PROPOSAL to rename Heathrow as the Princess Diana International Airport was endorsed by William Hague yesterday as an "immediate and symbolic memorial".

There was scepticism among executives at the airports operator BAA and some politicians pointed out privately that Heathrow was not always the most popular place in the country, and might become less so after the fifth terminal was built. The Government was non-committal.

Lindsay Hoyle, the Labour MP for Chorley, became the first MP to back the idea publicly yesterday, saying it would be "an ideal way to keep Diana's name constantly in people's minds the world over".

It became a formal proposal from Mr Hague. He said that the Conservatives would put the idea forward to the Government as a tribute that could be made quickly and easily while a range of memorials were being considered. He added: "Heathrow is one of our main gateways to the rest of the world and other countries such as the United States and France have named their airports after major public

figures." Sir Teddy Taylor, Conservative MP for Rochford and Southend East, did not agree: "I do not think it is a fitting memorial to put a new nameplate on something already there."

The BAA said officially that it was "flattered" and that the Princess had been a regular user of Heathrow. Privately, senior officials were sceptical that such a move would win board acceptance.

About 50 airports around the world have been named after people, such as John F. Kennedy in New York, Charles de Gaulle in Paris and John Wayne in Orange County, California. Britain has steadfastly refused to bow to the cult of personality.

"I can think of nothing worse than naming Heathrow after Diana, Princess of Wales," Sir Peter Masefield, former chairman of BAA, said. "It has always been a great tradition in this country to name airports after nearby villages which might have been there for thousands of years."

Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare said that he was calling for Kensington Gardens to be renamed the Princess of Wales Gardens.



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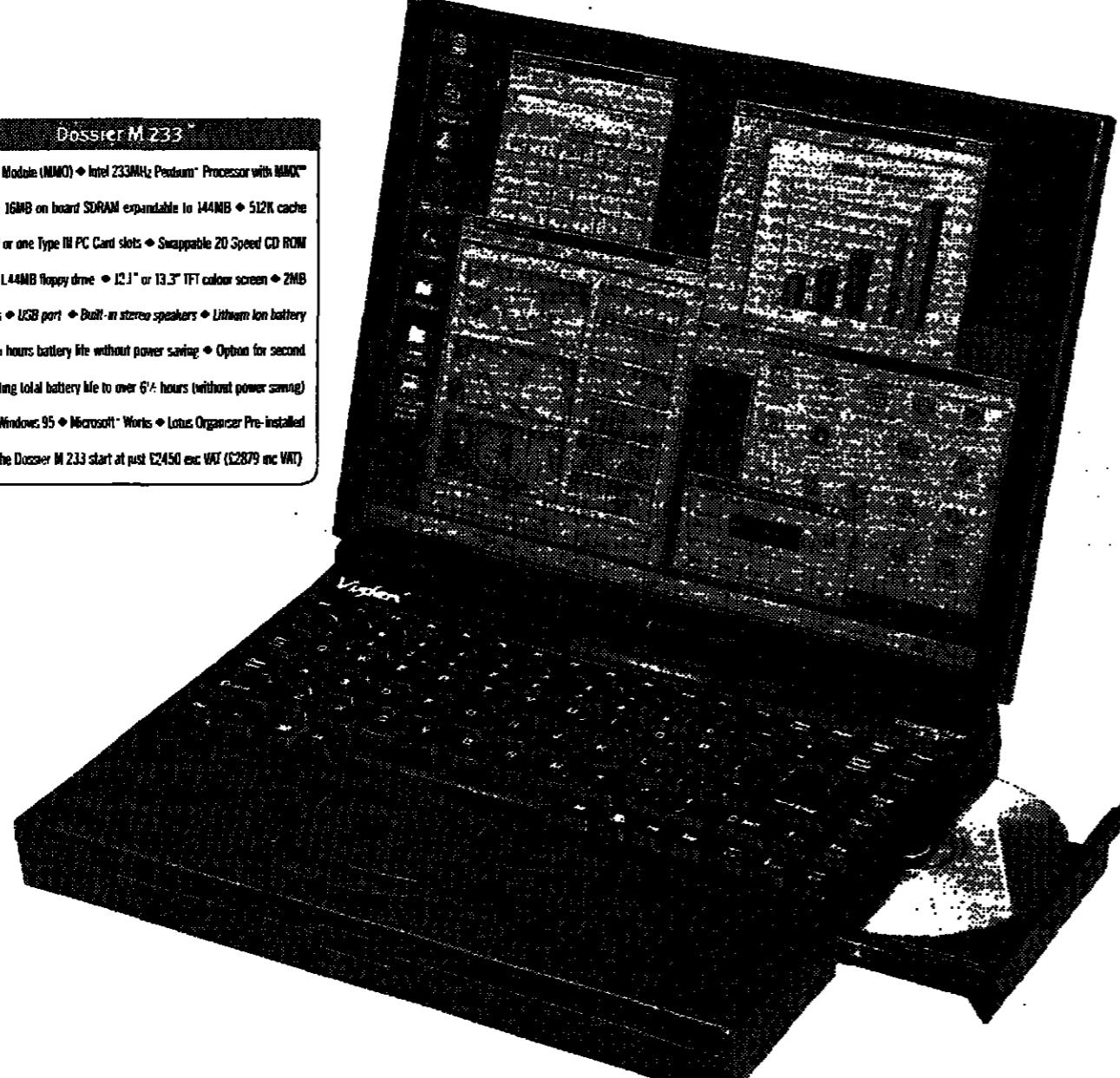


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## Branson to make tribute CD

By ALEXANDER MC CARTNEY

Sir Paul McCartney and Friends will release a tribute album to the Princess of Wales. Sir Richard Branson, the entrepreneur, has joined forces with three rock legends to honour the late Diana, Princess of Wales. The album, to be released in October, will feature tracks by Sir Paul McCartney, Sir Elton John, and Ringo Starr. The album will also include contributions from other artists, including George Harrison, Paul Simon, and Bruce Springsteen. The proceeds from the album will go to the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund.





# Whales gather for feast at the men-only diner

**BELUGA** whales travel thousands of miles to meet at a "men-only restaurant" beneath the Arctic pack-ice, scientists have discovered. They feast on rich stocks of cod and halibut after navigating by the stars or the Earth's magnetic field.

The discovery has overturned accepted knowledge of whales. Dr Tony Martin, of the Sea Mammal Research Unit at St Andrews University, said yesterday: "The Eskimos who hunt belugas saw our findings and said they were rubbish at first."

Until now it was believed that the beluga, a white-

## BRITISH ASSOCIATION

Reports by Nigel Hawkes and Nick Nuttall

coloured whale with males up to five metres long, never strayed from the shore and estuaries of the high Arctic. But Dr Martin said their findings showed they could dive to great depths, going on journeys of thousands of miles.

The belugas also appear to

have a detection system that can locate air holes in the pack-ice, allowing them to make their incredible journeys. The findings, disclosed at the annual meeting in Leeds of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, have been made possible by satellite tracking.

The British and Canadian scientists tagged the belugas in the Mackenzie Delta, on the Canadian side of Alaska. The whales then spend a few weeks moulting in estuaries in late June and July before heading to the feeding grounds.

The moulting period in shallow waters is when the whales are at the mercy of hunters. Dr Martin showed a picture of 20,000 skulls of beluga whales killed by British whalers in the last century. One big whaler from Dundee simply put a net up across a bay and shot the animals.

The females and the males

split by Banks Island. The big males travel up via McClure Strait to the "restaurant", a deep trench at a site called Viscount Melville Sound. The females go to a more shallow feeding ground, the scientists have found, taking young males and females with them.

The researchers believe the different sites reflect their abilities. The males appear able to stay down for up to 21 minutes whereas the smaller females can only stay down for up to 16 minutes.

Dr Martin, whose work is funded by the Natural Environment Research Council, said this allowed the males to make the hazardous journey to the 550-metre trench, where cod is available in "unbelievable quantities". The "restaurant" is open for August, after which the males head westwards under the ice, eventually emerging through the Bering Strait.

Toothed whales, such as beluga, have echo location systems like bats, but the researchers suspect that they dive and listen for a "sound signature" of water moving around air holes in the ice.

Official estimates are that there are 18,000 belugas in the Arctic, totalling between 40,000 and 80,000 animals. But Dr Martin said: "I now suspect that the population may be much larger, in excess of 200,000."

## Beckett calls for quality, not profit

**SCIENCE** should be as concerned with the quality of life as it is with profitability, Margaret Beckett, the Cabinet minister responsible for science, told the association.

Mrs Beckett, making the first statement on the Government's science policy, gave no promises of increased funding or radical policy departures. Her only concrete initiative was an annual prize, worth £100,000, to be awarded to the academic department, centre or unit that had made the most significant contribution towards sustaining a "healthy economy" - defined as sustainable development and a better quality of life.

She criticised industry which, she said, was not paying enough attention to research and development, or putting sufficient resources into it, and for the fate of many researchers forced to work on short-term contracts. "Only those companies and countries that have high levels of investment in skills and technologies, complemented by high levels of management interest and attention, will succeed," she said.

She was also critical of the slow progress made in trying to improve the career pattern of young researchers. "Many of these highly talented and committed young people have a vast amount to offer but for



Beckett: criticised lack of research by industry

a tangle of reasons this potential has not blossomed as it should," she said. A renewed effort should be made to ensure better career patterns for contract researchers, not only in universities but also in institutes and laboratories.

Britain had a strong science

base of which we should all be

proud, she said, but as a

society we often lacked scientific knowledge. "But what is worse and what lies behind that lack of knowledge is a widespread failure of imagination and understanding about the relevance, the value, and the sheer excitement of scientific endeavour in all its many forms," she said. The challenge was to improve public understanding of science, and to inspire young people to be interested in it.

## Yorkshire tittle-tattle 'inspired Jane Eyre'

By PAUL WILKINSON



Charlotte Brontë would have heard local gossip

A VICTORIAN love affair involving a teacher called Jane Eyre could have been the inspiration for the suppressed passion between Charlotte Brontë's fictional character and Mr Rochester in her classic novel.

Claims by Margaret Connor, an amateur historian, to have discovered the liaison are being taken seriously by the Brontë Society, which has published details of her work in its journal.

Miss Connor says the actual romance between Frances Jane Eyre and an eminent surgeon living not far from the Brontës' home at Haworth parsonage in West Yorkshire would have been hot gossip for the local chattering classes in the mid-1840s. *Jane Eyre* was published in 1847.

Miss Connor, a retired teacher, has spent two years researching how the tale found its way to the Brontë household through a grapevine of weekly prayer meetings, embroidery circles and dances.

The love life of Frances Jane Eyre, a member of the Moravian church in Fulneck, Leeds, bears a similarity to that of the literary heroine. In the novel the governess's love for the father of her pupil remains unfulfilled until almost the

but, as the relationship was "not in a state of forwardness", the elders did not object. She last appears in 1845 seeking a post in the church school.

Miss Connor first stumbled across the name in 1995 while looking into her family history in Fulneck's Moravian Church records. She dismissed it as coincidental until a year later she met an academic visiting Fulneck who said one of his forebears, Mary Liley, knew the Fulneck Jane Eyre and also Ellen Nussey, one of Charlotte Brontë's closest friends.

Liley's journal mentions: "Jane Eyre ... afterwards married to the late Dr Machell of Pudsey", which Miss Connor took to mean that the real Jane Eyre's "connection" had finally gone forward, although whether she had to change jobs or leave the sisterhood was unknown.

Miss Connor believes it was likely the news of Fulneck Jane Eyre's tribulations in love filtered through local gossip circles. She found Mary Liley's cousin, Elizabeth Cockill, was an old friend of Charlotte Brontë.

Yesterday she said: "It seems that Mary Liley's journal provides a very probable link between the Fulneck Jane Eyre and Charlotte Brontë." The Brontë Society is to study the research.

## Upland farms go downhill

By RUSSELL JENKINS

THE upland farms of England and Wales are facing a bleak future as the next generation deserts them, the National Farmers Union warned yesterday.

A survey conducted by the union found that 43 per cent of hill farmers with children said their sons and daughters had decided not to take over the farm. Three-quarters of the upland areas have been farmed by the same families over the generations. With no natural

successor, the upland communities face a bleak and bitter future. Our upland landscape could also suffer from skills such as drystone walling not being passed down the generations."

The union aims to persuade the Government that hill farming is facing a mounting crisis. Sir David and Tim Bennett, Less Favoured Areas Committee chairman, are to present ministers with a formal review emphasising the crucial role of upland areas to the agricultural economy.

The exodus places the long-term future of traditional farm-



TONY MARTIN WITH A PROJECTION OF A BELUGA WHALE. HIS FINDINGS WERE ORIGINALLY DISMISSED BY ESKIMOS

## When buses went down wrong road

ONE-MAN buses illustrate the folly of narrow-minded decision-making, according to the president of the association.

Sir Derek Roberts, Provost of University College London, said: "Somebody looked at the cost of the bus service and said, 'We could halve the wage bill if we didn't have conductors.' So they did it and made a very marginal saving. But had they looked at the economy as a whole, they would have seen that it made no sense."

Dr Lloyd Peck, of the British Antarctic Survey, said yesterday that the low temperatures led to very low metabolic rates among marine creatures, allowing them to grow to bigger sizes and to live longer than comparable creatures in warmer waters.

Isopods — creatures rather

like wood lice — reach

lengths of 17cm against 3cm

in temperate seas. Sea spiders

up to 33cm from leg tip to leg

tip have been discovered.

They are a thousand times

bigger than European sea

spiders.

Dr Peck said that other

## Monsters of the deep thrive in ice

MONSTROUS creatures, including giant sea spiders and worms, have been discovered on the Antarctic seabed.

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Dr Peck said that other

oddities included a 10ft tall sponge, big enough for divers to climb inside, and nemerteans or ribbon worms that can grow to three metres and are as "thick as your thumb".

The seabed world has emerged from studies of icebergs. When a big one

ground on the seabed it can obliterate marine communities. Smaller ones swirling

around in the sea also kill off

seabed life.

Dr Peck said that the survey

had found that the diversity of

Antarctic marine life forms

rivalled the Tropics. That was

partly due to the clearing out

by icebergs and partly to the

isolation of the continent from

the rest of the world for some

35 million years.

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## Public is turned off by green confusion

THE public is confused and increasingly cynical about claims made by environmental experts.

Although most people would like to lead a greener life, they are not sure how to do it and doubtful that it would make any difference. The messages from government, the media and environmental groups are too complex, too confusing and change too often for them to know how best to respond.

Jacquelin Burgess, of the Department of Geography at University College London, who has carried out a study in Britain and The Netherlands, found that the Dutch were greener than the British and more likely to trust what they were told.

The research, carried out from 1993 to 1995 in Nottingham and Eindhoven, found anxieties about the environment had been displaced by worries about crime and unemployment.

As one Nottingham woman put it: "You have enough pressures in your own life — with your own problems — without taking on the world's all of the time." Dr Burgess says that the Nottingham groups conveyed "a sense of overwhelming resignation".

Dutch households in a six-month programme organised by an international charity ended up using 16 per cent less electricity, 10 per cent less water, driving 18 per cent fewer miles and generating 27 per cent less household waste. A similar programme will go ahead in Britain in the next year.

Evidence linking tiny particles of metals in vehicle exhausts to increased heart attacks in heavy pollution was "beginning to look very solid", a government air adviser said.

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# You have nothing to fear from home rule, Blair tells Scotland

**Nicholas Watt**  
on the Prime Minister's return to the devolution campaign

TONY BLAIR staked his authority yesterday on winning a double "yes" vote in Thursday's devolution referendum when he told the people of Scotland that they had nothing to fear from a parliament with tax-varying powers.

During a whistle-stop campaign tour of Edinburgh and Glasgow, the Prime Minister told hundreds of supporters that they should have the self-confidence to vote for historic constitutional reform.

Evoking the memory of Franklin Roosevelt, Mr Blair told an audience in Edinburgh: "There is nothing to be afraid of except fear itself... so have courage and be of good faith."

His remarks came after opinion polls showed that support for the proposed tax-varying powers for a Scottish parliament has fallen below 50 per cent. An opinion poll for *Scotland on Sunday* found that Scots plan to vote overwhelmingly in favour of a parliament, but only 45 per cent said they wanted it to have the power to increase or decrease the basic rate of income tax by up to 3p in the pound.

During an hour-long question-and-answer session at a school in Edinburgh, Mr Blair faced hostile questions about the tax-varying powers. Flanked by Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, the Prime Minister acknowledged that there was "less support" for the tax plans and said he

understood that people were nervous.

But in a rallying cry to the Scots, he added: "What I would say to you, to the business community, to the people of Scotland, is trust us and trust yourselves." To strong applause, Mr Blair went on: "The idea that this is a power with which the Scottish people cannot be trusted I just find wrong, absurd."

Mr Blair's plea for a double "yes" vote came after the Tories stepped up their opposition. Peter Lilley, the Shadow Chancellor, entered the campaign to ask Labour how it would pay for the improvements in public services promised by ministers.

Writing in *The Scotsman*, Mr Lilley said: "Cash would need to come from one of two sources. It could be diverted from other spending areas on the rob-Peter-to-pay-Paul principle or it could come through higher taxes."

The Prime Minister, who

took off his jacket for the question-and-answer session at Trinity Academy school in Edinburgh, dismissed the Tory claims as "the usual Conservative scare" and reiterated his promise not to raise income tax in the lifetime of the present Westminster Parliament. Reassuring his audience that a Scot — Gordon Brown — was Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Blair told the selected audience: "I say to you in all sincerity that there is nothing to be frightened of in this change. It is a good change. It is the right change for the times in which we live. It will be good not just for the people of Scotland but for business too."

In a series of interviews, Mr Blair said that the Government's constitutional reforms in Scotland and throughout Britain were designed to prepare for the challenges of the next century. "This is all part of modernising the constitution of Britain to bring power closer to the people, to make sure that the people of Scotland can take the types of decision which affect people in Scotland."

The Prime Minister, accompanied by his wife, Cherie, relished his return to the campaign trail four months after the general election. He cracked jokes with his audience and teased Mr Dewar throughout the day. When the 60-year-old Scottish Secretary sat next to a child on a mat in a school gymnasium Mr Blair held up both hands and said: "Is he going to be able to get up again?" Mr Dewar promptly stood up, only to sit down again to resume his conversation with the perplexed pupil.

In the centres of Glasgow and Edinburgh Mr Blair received a rapturous welcome

from crowds of people who thronged round his motorcade. In Glasgow he signed scores of autographs.

At his first engagement of the day, at Killermont Primary School in Bearsden, north Glasgow, a group of parents congratulated him on his role last week in responding to

public criticism of the Royal Family after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. Mr Blair told the parents: "It was very difficult for all of us... I cannot remember anything like it in my lifetime."

Peter Riddell, page 18  
Letters, page 19

## THE SCOTTISH DEVOLUTION CAMPAIGN – WHERE DO THE PARTIES STAND?

### YES YES CAMP



### LABOUR

Tony Blair believes that a parliament with tax-varying powers would answer the demand for home rule while strengthening Scotland's position within the United Kingdom. It insists that limited powers to vary taxes will give the body credibility. Some observers believe Labour leadership is concerned about a "tartan tax" and is hoping privately that electorate will vote for parliament, but reject tax powers. Labour has pledged not to raise taxes in lifetime of present Westminster Parliament. Scottish parliament marks first stage of campaign to "clean up" British politics, which includes referendum on Welsh assembly and mayor of London.

### LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Scottish parliament will "blaze a trail" for constitutional and electoral reform within the UK. Lib Dem MSPs (Members of the Scottish Parliament) likely to clash with Labour soon after the parliament is established because Paddy Ashdown wants the body to introduce PR to local government elections in Scotland. Wants to root out Labour's "unrepresentative cliques". Many Lib Dems will also press for higher taxes to pay for increased spending on health and education. Ashdown says Lib Dems have most consistent position on home rule because Liberals have been fighting for a Scottish parliament for more than 100 years.

### SCOTTISH NATIONALISTS

Regards the parliament as first step on the road to an independent Scotland. Joined "yes" campaign late because party was initially opposed. Signed up because party believes there will be no "glass ceiling" and Scottish people will have the right to vote for independence at a later date. SNP says: "Half a loaf is better than none." Unhappy that Westminster will retain responsibility over areas such as foreign affairs.

### TIMING

**THURSDAY:** Voting takes place. A simple majority will be enough to establish the parliament.

**LATE 1997:** Legislation to set up the parliament to be introduced at Westminster

**1999:**

Elections to the 129-member parliament to be held in first half of year. Voters in Scotland's 72 parliamentary constituencies will elect one MSP under first-past-the-post system, apart from Orkney and Shetland, which will be split into two. Electors will cast second vote for party to elect additional 56 members, seven from each of the eight European parliamentary constituencies

**2000:**

First sitting for a four-year fixed term. Scottish executive, including a First Minister and a team of Scottish ministers, will be appointed from new parliament.

### VOTERS WILL BE ASKED TO RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- I agree that there should be a Scottish parliament
- I do not agree that there should be a Scottish parliament.
- I agree that a Scottish parliament should have tax-varying powers
- I do not agree that a Scottish parliament should have tax-varying powers

### VOTERS CAN GIVE ONE OF FOUR RESPONSES:

- YES YES = endorsement of Scottish parliament with tax-varying powers
- YES NO = endorsement of parliament but rejection of tax-varying powers
- NO NO = rejection of both parliament and tax-varying powers
- NO YES = rejection of parliament but acceptance of tax-varying powers

Few people are expected to register such a complicated vote

### NO NO CAMP

#### CONSERVATIVES AND THINK TWICE CAMPAIGN

The Conservatives and Think Twice campaign reject the parliament because, they say, it will lead to the break-up of the United Kingdom. Body will create a "cesspool of resentment" between English and Scots. Tax-varying powers will make the average taxpayer £300 a year worse off and will make Scottish businesses less competitive. The parliament will undermine Scotland's funding arrangements, known as the "Barnett formula", which ensures that the Government spends more per capita north of the border. Labour-controlled central belt area – between Glasgow and Edinburgh – will dominate new body.

### EXTREMIST NATIONALISTS

Campaign for Genuine Self-Determination urging supporters to boycott the "rigid" referendum because claims that a "yes" vote will create a "puppet parliament". The campaigners, who are sponsored by the Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB), want a republic in Scotland. They are calling on people to demonstrate and to hold strikes to demand a parliament with real powers to introduce socialist policies. They claim that proposed tax-varying powers will hit lowest paid and not big businesses. The CPGB has fewer than 1,000 members in Scotland.

Mr Hague was boosted by an open display of dissent over devolution by two senior Labour MPs. Sir Ray Powell (Ogmore) and Denzil Davies (Llanelli) broke ranks to voice concern that a Welsh assembly would fail to dismantle the quango system left by the Tory government.

Their outspoken comments – including Sir Ray's pledge to vote "no" on September 18 – took some of the shine off Labour's campaign, re-launched after the period of mourning last week for Diana, Princess of Wales.

But Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary, insisted that Wales would be confident that Wales would

vote for an assembly, which would offer a strong voice and a brighter future. He dismissed Sir Ray's declaration that the plans were "just a series of poorly thought-out promises which can be broken at any time". Mr Davies said every Welsh Labour MP had been elected on May 1 on the basis of a commitment to an assembly. "If Ray Powell has difficulty with that commitment, that is a matter for him and not me. I am confident that people in this constituency will understand the great benefits which will come to them – and to Wales – from the Government being successful in getting a 'yes' vote."

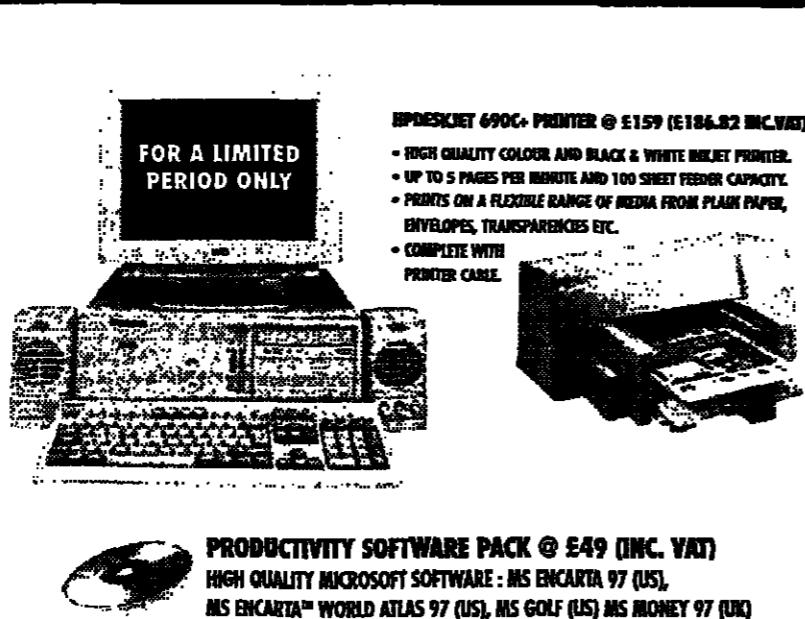
Denzil Davies said: "The

Tories are determined to raise their profile in the run-up to the conference season. Mr Hague's travels over the next three weeks were described yesterday as "the most comprehensive single tour ever undertaken by a Tory leader". He hopes to meet thousands of voters.

Archie Norman, the Tory party vice-chairman, has provided Mr Hague with his "green paper" on party reforms. On the tour Mr Hague will seek support for the plans, telling activists that "no change is not an option".

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**DELL**

# Strange alliance seems on high road to success

BY MAGNUS LINKLATER

ALONG the A9 from Inverness to Edinburgh, there is unmistakable evidence of a referendum campaign leaping into life: planted along the verges at regular intervals are neat little plastic signs proclaiming the slogan YES-YES. They are fluorescent yellow, the party colour of the Scottish nationalists, and in the bottom right-hand corner is the familiar thistle logo of the SNP.

Mr Salmond seemed to indicate the latter yesterday, when he spoke of "a can-do parliament reflecting the can-do spirit of Scotland". The party's justice spokesman, Roseanna Cunningham, even praised the proportional representation voting system espoused by the Liberal Democrats. The referendum has produced some strange bed-fellows.

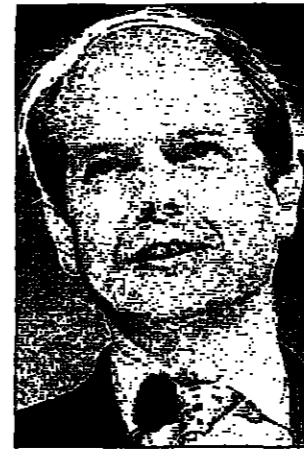
So what is this? A none-too-subtle attempt to plug the party line under the guise of a "yes" campaign? "Not at all," protested an SNP spokesman. "It's simply part of the SNP's 'yes' campaign." The distinction may well be lost on the average Scottish voter, but that is part of the price the Government has had to pay for getting the formidable nationalist machine on side.

Much of the momentum that has built up over the past 24 hours has been thanks to the party that has been Labour's sworn enemy for the best part of a generation. Thanks to Sean Connery, the man chosen to launch the "yes" campaign on Sunday alongside the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, it got off to a famous start. Mr Connery, of course, is the SNP's most celebrated supporter. The familiar gruff tones, announcing his intention to vote "yes-yes", failed to add that his party's ultimate aim is an independent Scotland.

For the time being, however, those differences have been sunk. The SNP's leader, Alex Salmond, said yesterday that the party was arguing for "a parliament that reflects all of Scotland", and if the polls are anything to go by that is what he will get. The great unanswered question is how the

# Hague warns Welsh against 'costly error'

Labour has a fight on its hands, reports Philip Webster



WILLIAM HAGUE told the Welsh people yesterday that devolution would threaten the stability of Wales and "cost them a fortune".

The Tory leader, beginning a 5,000-mile tour of Britain at which he aims to sell his plans for party reform and introduce himself to the electorate, issued his toughest warning yet against devolution.

He said that it would turn Wales on itself, turn Welshman against Welshman, turn North Wales against South Wales, and reduce the country's influence within the United Kingdom. The number of Welsh MPs would be reduced, the role of the Welsh secretary curtailed and public money spent in Wales cut.

Mr Hague was boosted by an open display of dissent over devolution by two senior Labour MPs. Sir Ray Powell (Ogmore) and Denzil Davies (Llanelli) broke ranks to voice concern that a Welsh assembly would fail to dismantle the quango system left by the Tory government.

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THE TIMES TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 9 1997

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Welsh  
error

Martin Webb

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**DEAL**

# Fresh setback for Mir as computer suffers third crash

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S troubled Mir space station suffered a fresh setback yesterday when its computer crashed, forcing the crew to shut down all but the life support systems.

In the most serious mishap since a fresh crew arrived last month and began vital repairs to the spacecraft, mission control in Moscow reported that the ageing computer had been "playing up again".

Although Russian space officials insisted that the incident, the third of its kind in three months, was routine and that the crew was not at any risk, the problem is considered serious and could take days to repair.

Mir's computer was unplugged by mistake in July and then crashed last month after a faulty part malfunctioned during a docking procedure. On all three occasions, the crew was forced to shut down non-essential systems in order to conserve power.

throwing the orbiter off course. The systems that were closed down yesterday included the Elektron oxygen-generating system and the gyrodes, the devices used to position Mir's solar panels towards the Sun.

Although on the past two occasions the spacecraft was sent spinning out of control and lost its orientation, this time the Russians claimed that Mir was relatively stable and that its solar panels were still generating power.

The systems are all in order and as soon as the computer is repaired they can go back into operation immediately," said Vladimir Solovyov, the mission control director.

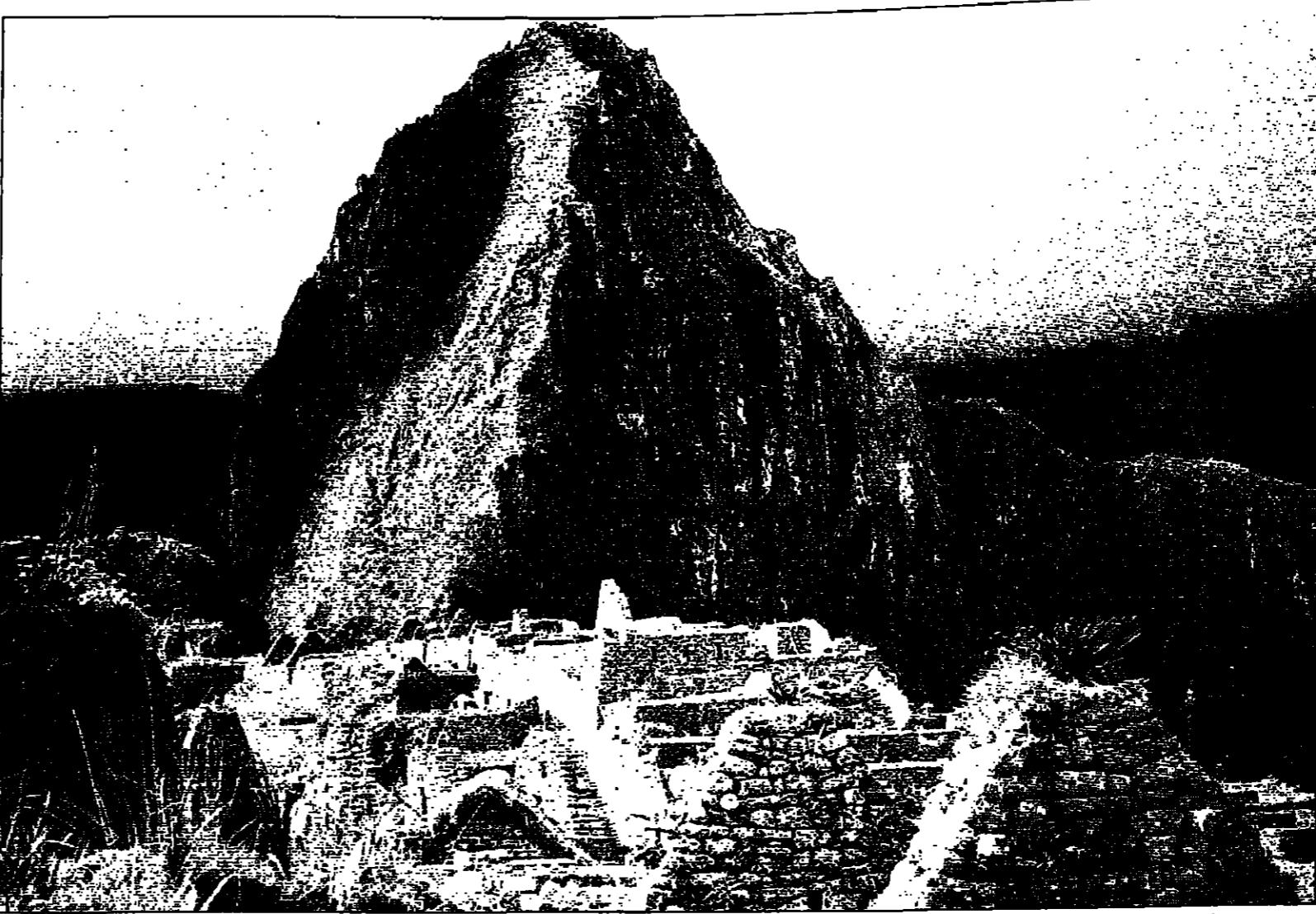
He added that the failure had been caused by a defect in one of the computer's units and by one of the programmes, which the crew would replace. "The computer contains 10,000 units, so one is

bound to go wrong sooner or later," he said.

Despite his relaxed attitude, the incident does raise some troubling questions for Mir, which the Russians want to keep operational until 1999, but which faces a difficult future if the computer crashes with such regularity.

Nasa seems determined to continue its partnership with the Russian space programme. A spokeswoman for the American agency said yesterday that, despite the latest setback, David Wolf is scheduled to replace Michael Foale, the British-born Nasa astronaut, on Mir at the end of this month, when the Atlantis shuttle is due to dock with the Russian orbiter.

After his recent spacewalk to carry out repairs, Mr Foale telephoned his parents in Britain to tell them about the experience. The ten-minute link to Cambridge was made through a radio ham in Texas.



The Lost City of Machu Picchu in the Andes. Concern is high after a brush fire spread up the steep mountainsides on Sunday

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## Troops halt huge blaze on fringes of Incas' Lost City

BY GABRIELLA GAMINI, SOUTH AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

PERUVIAN officials are urgently trying to assess the extent of damage to Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas, after a huge brush fire spread up the steep mountainsides of the ancient complex of temples and palaces.

The fire was put out successfully but there are fears that it could reignite in the dry and windy conditions in the Andes. More than 350 members of the army and police fought the flames that spread across lush vegetation towards the 8,855ft high peak on which the citadel is perched.

Homero Nurenra, Peru's civil defence chief, said: "We are now assessing the damage caused to the ancient ruins. The fire came within metres of the Inca city and there has to be an archaeological investigation to see what was destroyed." He added: "We remain on alert as there are still fears that the fire could restart."

The severe drought conditions are being blamed for the fire which is believed to have started naturally. The blaze engulfed 99 acres of low shrubs on Sunday before it was extinguished yesterday morning.

The flames were put out using water from the two rivers, the Urubamba and

Aobamba, which flow through lush valleys 2,300ft below Machu Picchu. "It was lucky that we had a water supply to douse the flames," Señor Nurenra said. "Other Inca ruins are in remote and high-altitude Andean areas where water is sparse."

The Lost City of Machu Picchu, one of Latin America's most famous tourist attractions, was proclaimed a World Heritage Site by the United Nations. It receives about 1,000 visitors a day during the dry season which begins in June and ends in December.

The ruins were discovered under thick jungle vegetation by Hiram Bingham, an American archaeologist, on July 24, 1911. Between 1912 and 1915 he brought in a team to clear the overgrown vegetation and discovered a maze of complex structures that continues to provide an invaluable source of knowledge about the Incas' advanced engineering skills.

Archaeologists say the exceptionally high quality of stonework and the abundance of ornamental, rather than practical, structures suggest that the citadel was an important ceremonial site for the warrior tribe. Although it stands on such high ground, it is very difficult to see from the surrounding valleys.

## Caribbean states hit by banana trade feud

FROM CHARLES BREMNER  
IN BRUSSELS

THE European Union is struggling to find a way of shoring up the economies of the Windward Islands and other Caribbean banana-growing states after the World Trade Organisation upheld American complaints that Europe gave them unfair access to its market.

The decision by a WTO appeal panel, to be confirmed this month, has brought to a climax the US-EU feud over a protected banana trade that is the lifeblood of former British colonies such as St Lucia, St Vincent, Dominica and Grenada.

The United States Government, under pressure from big American-owned export companies, challenged the EU "banana regime", which grants special import quotas and tariffs to fruit from certain nations in the Caribbean and Africa, mostly former British and French colonies.

The small states, which depend on banana exports for up to 70 per cent of their income, say they cannot compete with the low-cost Latin American product, mainly exported by American companies. The Caribbean accounts for 15 per cent of the EU banana market, and the industry brings in more than £200 million a year to the region.

Eastern Caribbean leaders have told President Clinton that their economies face collapse if their European market is cut off, which could endanger democracy and increase the drug trade.

**12 die as train hits tanker in France**

FROM BEN MACINTYRE  
IN PARIS

AT LEAST 12 people were killed and more than 30 injured yesterday when a passenger train hurtled into a petrol tanker on a railway crossing in southwest France.

The express train, travelling from Bordeaux to Bergerac in the Dordogne, struck the tanker, carrying 30,000 litres of fuel, just before noon near the village of Saint-Antoine-de-Breuilh. The vehicle burst into flames and the train's engine and first carriage were destroyed by fire, which spread rapidly to nearby buildings.

Ten fire engines and 160 firefighters fought the blaze as 23 ambulances and two helicopters ferried victims to hospitals at Bordeaux and Limoges.

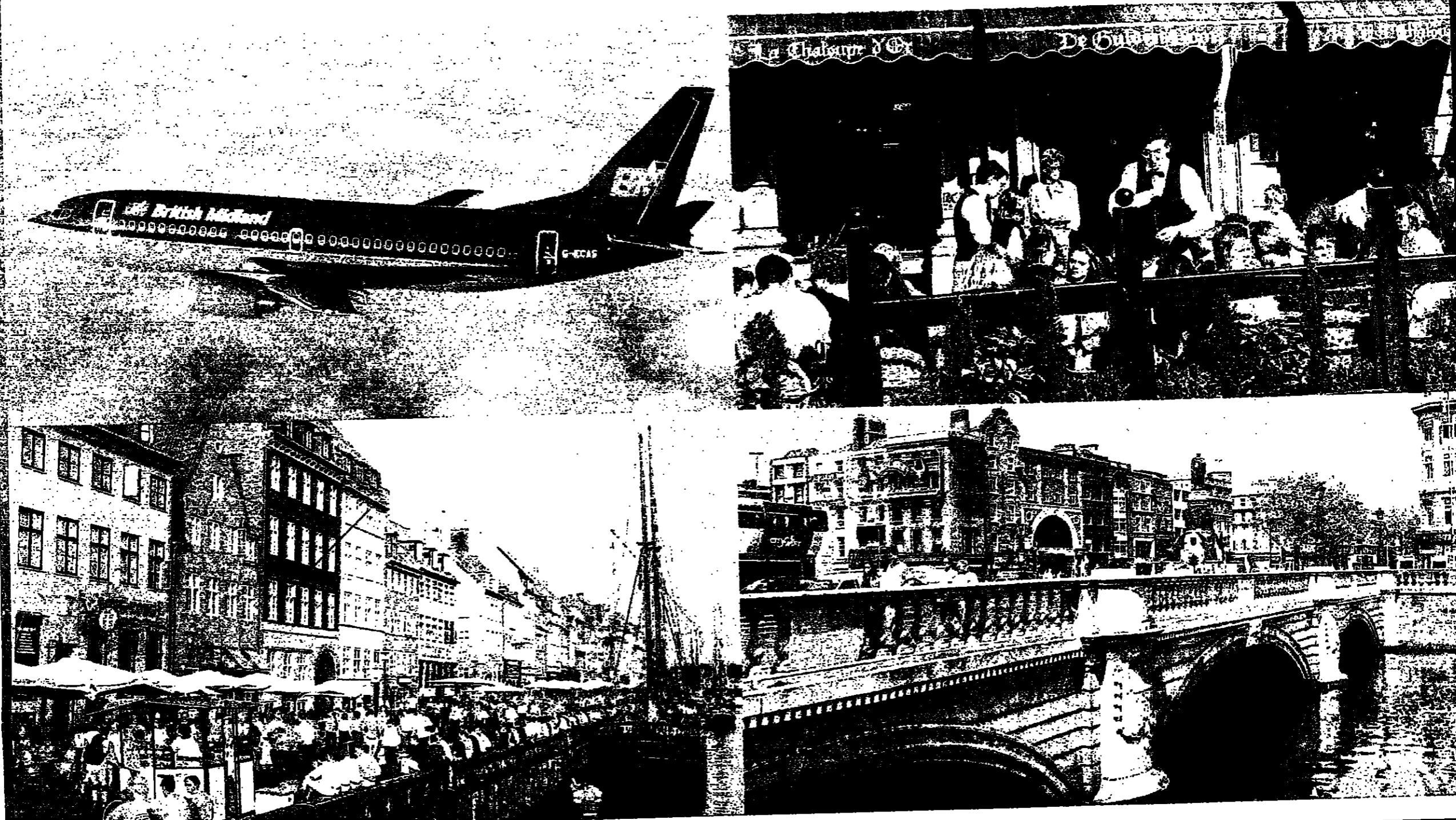
Police said the tanker had bypassed barriers to cross onto the track. The train driver was killed instantly. The tanker driver was critically injured. Officials said some bodies were so badly burnt that immediate identification was impossible. Four people were in a serious condition last night.

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\*see terms and conditions (14) below

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS** 1. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotion or discounted rate, and is open to UK residents only, aged 18 or over. 2. To qualify for one voucher as part of this offer, you must collect 12 differently numbered tokens from The Times and two differently numbered tokens from The Sunday Times, complete the voucher application form and send it to the address on the application form. A total of 17 consecutively numbered tokens will appear in The Times, and three in The Sunday Times between Tuesday September 9 and Sunday September 26, 1997. 3. Two vouchers maximum will be issued per household. One application form and 14 tokens are required per voucher. 4. Applications will only be accepted on an official application form printed in The Times on Monday, September 15 and 22 and The Sunday Times on September 14, 21 and 28. 5. Photocopies, defaced, damaged, altered, illegible or incorrectly filled in applications, tokens or vouchers will not be accepted, nor will they be acknowledged. 6. Applications must be sent to The Times/British Midland Offer, PO Box 79, Ferry Drayton, Nuneaton, CV13 6ZX. 7. Applications to any other address will not be accepted. 8. British Midland undertake to issue a voucher if the qualifying criteria has been met. Voucher applications must be received by Friday, October 10, 1997. Allow 28 days from voucher application receipt to delivery of voucher. 9. Proof of postage is not proof of receipt. British Midland and Times Newspapers Ltd cannot accept responsibility for applications, tokens, fulfilment packs lost or damaged in the post. 10. Voucher(s) may only be redeemed in the UK directly with British Midland Reservations or through branches of Thomas Cook (details will be given with the voucher). The voucher can be used to purchase Economy cabin seats at £50, £60, £75, £90, £100, £110, £125, £135, £140, £150 and £160 return, per person, excluding taxes on featured British Midland services specified as part of this promotion originating in the UK. All tickets must be issued in pounds sterling only. 11. The voucher is valid only when two persons travel together in the Economy cabin

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Collect 14 differently numbered tokens, 12 from *The Times* and two from *The Sunday Times*. A total of 20 tokens will be printed: 17 will be published in *The Times* until Saturday September 27. Three tokens will appear in *The Sunday Times*, on September 14, 21 and 28, 1997. One application is valid for two return tickets. Two applications per household permitted. So, you and three friends could fly return to any of the destinations listed right at the prices quoted, which are per person and exclude taxes. The offer is for minimum two-night stays.



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# THE TIMES

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# THE TIMES

# Republicans home in on Gore as claims of Chinese plot misfire

PRESSURE is mounting on Vice-President Al Gore to testify before the Senate committee investigating campaign finance. Two prominent Republicans on the committee are calling this week for Mr Gore to provide more evidence about his attendance at a fund-raising event at a Buddhist temple.

But the new focus on Mr Gore is a powerful sign of what Republicans admit in private the three-month Senate investigation is falling far short of their hopes. Fred Thompson, the committee's Republican chairman, has failed to sustain his opening declaration that he knew of a Chinese plot to influence the White House. This weekend, as members of Congress

A former actor turned senator has not been able to produce evidence backing his allegations that the White House solicited illegal campaign funds. Bronwen Maddox writes from Washington

tussled over the autumn agenda, it became clear that campaign finance reform will not be achieved this year.

Arlen Specter and Don Nickles, both Republican senators on the committee, have called on Mr Gore this week to "speak out" on whether he knew the 1996 gathering at the temple was a Democratic fundraising event. Republicans

have seized on disclosures that Mr Gore had a greater part in fund-raising than he previously admitted as their best chance of damaging his bid for the White House in 2000. But in the process the governmental affairs committee has wheeled away from its original, more controversial target — proving that the Democratic National Committee or the White

House knowingly solicited illegal foreign contributions, particularly from China.

When the hearings began in July Mr Thompson, a former actor, used all his Hollywood instincts to steal the show by claiming that the committee had "uncovered a significant amount of documentary and other relevant information" about a "plan hatched during the last election cycle by the Chinese Government and designed to pour illegal money into American political campaigns".

On August 1, after three weeks of hearings, Mr Thompson was forced to concede, according to reports, that "we do not know to

what extent" China tried to influence the elections, and that there had been "some confusion in terms of what was said and what was intended" by his claim.

Mr Thompson's mistakes in chairing the committee are spelled out in the televised hearings. He "had been billed as a slow-speaking, somewhatumbling country lawyer on the surface but underneath a savvy and determined advocate", the *New Republic* argues. In reality, despite "moments of acuity ... his line of thought often appeared obscure".

Nor, it appears this week, is the committee's second stated aim of campaign finance reform likely to be achieved. The issue was strik-

ingly absent from a list of 41 themes drawn up by Republican leaders in the House of Representatives to be tackled this autumn. The Bill put forward by John McCain, a Republican senator, and Russell Feingold, a Democrat, now appears a non-starter, senators say in private.

□ Little Rock: The two main lawyers for Paula Jones in her sexual harassment suit against President Clinton asked a court to let them withdraw from the case, citing "fundamental differences" with her. They said that they could no longer represent Mrs Jones, who filed a \$700,000 (£435,000) lawsuit against Mr Clinton three years ago. (AP)

## WORLD SUMMARY

### Wartime stress 'led to killing'

Los Angeles: A former prisoner of war went on trial yesterday for the murder of his British son-in-law, claiming to have "snapped" because of traumatic wartime memories. (Giles Whitelock writes).

Lawyers for Richard Keech, 77, are to argue that when he shot dead Nicholas Candy, 47, last year he was in the grip of post-traumatic stress disorder caused by beatings in Japanese prison camps.

Mr Candy, from south London, was in the midst of a bitter child custody battle with Mr Keech's daughter when he visited the Keech home to pick up his two-year-old son and was shot after an argument.

### North Sea air crash

Oslo: An 18-seat French-built Super Puma AS332 helicopter crashed into the North Sea off Norway with the feared loss of the ten passengers and two crew on board. Wreckage and an empty life raft were found, and several bodies recovered, but there were no immediate reports of survivors. The aircraft had been on its way from Brønnøysund, about 450 miles north of Oslo, to an oil production ship 150 miles offshore in the Nornen field. (AP)

### Mayor guilty of race hatred

Paris: Catherine Mégré, the far-right National Front Mayor of Vitrolles in southern France, was given a three-month suspended prison sentence yesterday for promoting racial hatred (Ben Macintyre writes). She was fined £50,000 (£5,000) but the court stopped short of the demand that she be declared ineligible for public office. She had said immigrants were only in France "to take money".

### Officials deny Abacha is ill

Lagos: Officials in Abuja, the Nigerian capital, denied a report in *Tell*, an opposition magazine, claiming that General Sani Abacha, 53, the country's military ruler, is "very sick" with cirrhosis of the liver. "We deny that this story is correct. I do not know where they got their information from," one official at the presidency said. (AFP)

### Cyprus court fines soldiers

Nicosia: Three Royal Signals Regiment soldiers were fined £200 each by a Cyprus court for indecent behaviour and causing malicious damage while off-duty from training, the Army said. They were caught naked at a public pool in the Ayia Napa resort on Sunday morning. (Reuters)

# Mother Teresa to be buried in house of prayer

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN CALCUTTA

## Fears of 400 dead in Haiti ferry sinking

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

UP TO 400 people were feared drowned yesterday after an overloaded ferry sank off Haiti.

Local radio stations reported that about 60 people managed to reach the shore, but the majority of passengers on the *Ferry Gonavienne*, a 60ft wooden sailing vessel, were missing. Within a few hours of the ship sinking, at least 25 bodies had been washed ashore.

US Coast Guard vessels, which patrol the Windward Passage between Haiti and Cuba, were sent to search for survivors.

The Haitian Coast Guard has three boats on the scene and they are reporting about 300 to 400 dead," Petty Officer Scott Carr said at US Coast Guard headquarters in Miami. "We are not sure if it capsized or sank."

The US Coast Guard sent a helicopter to help the search. Two more helicopters from a United Nations peace mission in Haiti were also assisting.

The ferry sank at dawn between the small port of Montrouis, about 50 miles north of Port-au-Prince, the capital, and the island of Gonavie, which lies a few miles off the coast.

Local ferries, which carry food to Gonavie and charcoal to the mainland, are often overloaded. Despite numerous tragedies in the past, Haitian ferry traffic is almost wholly unregulated.

The *Ferry Gonavienne* had an estimated capacity of about 300 passengers, but witnesses said she left port with up to 800.

In February 1993, more than 1,000 people died when the ferry, *Neptune*, sank on a regular trip between the capital and the port of Jérémie. At the time, the Haitian junta failed to respond to the disaster, setting off a political outcry which fuelled hatred of the military regime.

Last year, Haiti's new civilian Government created the country's first Coast Guard, which has been undergoing training under American supervision. But it has only three or four 25ft vessels and remains incapable of dealing with a disaster of this magnitude.

MOTHER TERESA is to be buried in a room at Mother House, headquarters of her Missionaries of Charity order, one of two Christian centres in the city where prayers are held non-stop. It was her wish to be interred where there was constant prayer. The city authorities have declared the building a heritage site.

There were queues a mile long yesterday to see her body lying in state in a glass casket in St Thomas's Church, beneath a huge stained-glass window. Nuns from the Missionaries of Charity, wearing their familiar blue-and-white saris, sang hymns and chanted prayers in Bengali, Hindi and English.

Children in school uniform, children from her orphanages and thousands of poor people stood in monsoon rain for a chance to file past the body. It is not customary for Christians in India to display the dead, but the Missionaries of Charity decided this should be an exception in response to popular clamour for a last look at the "Saint of the Slums".

The lawns outside the church were festooned with flowers, some of which workmen arranged into a giant low-key: she wore nothing but cheap cotton saris, which were sometimes so old they had tears in them. She was often barefoot, but otherwise wore sandals bought in the local market. She ran her order with almost military discipline and strictly imposed codes of poverty and obedience. Flags on government buildings in



An altar boy and a nun keep vigil inside the church where Mother Teresa's body is lying in state

## Martial arts saved Israeli girl from suicide bomber

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

AS THE Israeli death toll from last week's triple suicide bombing in Jerusalem rose to five, a Jewish girl told yesterday how lessons in martial arts had saved her life after one of the three guerrillas grabbed her by the hand.

"The [Islamic] terrorist gave me a scary look and grabbed my hand right," said Mital Perry, 17. "When he grabbed me, I instinctively used a release method I learned in a tae kwon do class, and stuck my elbow in his stomach. I managed to run two or three paces and then heard an enormous explosion and flew

backwards." Miss Perry, who was lightly wounded in the pelvic area, told the Hebrew daily *Yediot Acharonot*.

The Israeli student said: "I came up from the Zion Square

side and about midway noticed three men who looked suspicious. I kept walking towards them and then they split up. The terrorist quickly came over to me. I thought, 'I am about to die.' The hand was do

saved my life."

The fifth Israeli victim to die as a result of the attack was named as Eliyahu Markovitch, 40. Hospital officials said that his 11-year-old son was still seriously ill.

Hebron: Israeli soldiers

bound and severely beat a

Palestinian in this West Bank town yesterday and then fired teargas when passers-by attempted to intervene. The Israeli Army said that Ashraf al-Hdoush, 20, had attacked an Israeli soldier at a check-point, but a witness said: "15 soldiers took him out of the car, bound him and beat him until blood started gushing out of his mouth and ears."

Aishah Midyeh, an elderly woman, said she got a knife from her house and returned to try to free Mr al-Hdoush's hands as he lay bleeding on the ground. She said: "The soldiers took the knife from me and accused Hdoush of acquiring a weapon and arrested him." (Reuters)

## New York judge asks shrink to rule in dog-eat-dog dispute

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

A JUDGE has ordered a dog to undergo a "full psychological examination" to determine why it bit off a woman's thumb as she struggled to rescue her pet puppy from its jaws.

The incident occurred two years ago when Grace Shen, now 62, was walking Casper, her minuscule West Highland terrier, outside her home in the Bronx. They taken a few leisurely steps when a large chow, three times the size of Casper, bounded up and sank its jaws into the dog's neck.

Mrs Shen tried to prise open the chow's jaws. The larger

dog, Chester, let him go, but not before biting off her right thumb. It was later sewn back on, but Mrs Shen, a nurse, claims that she can no longer perform intricate tasks requiring the use of her thumb.

Mrs Shen sued the dog's owner, Oleg Kornchenko, a security guard at the Russian Mission to the United Nations, for \$10 million (£6.2 million), for trauma suffered by her and her dog, and for the loss of feeling in her thumb.

Yesterday Judge Barry Saliman of the State Supreme Court ordered Mr Kornchenko to take Chester "forthwith" to an animal behaviourist to determine whether the dog has a "vicious propensi-

ty". Mr Kornchenko's lawyers had argued that the puppy should be also examined, but the judge ruled that there was "enough prima facie evidence to conclude that Casper was a mild-mannered dog".

□ Pet craze ends: Nine months after the film *101 Dalmatians* hit America's screens, prompting a craze for the breed, hundreds of Dalmatians are being handed to animal shelters across the country. One shelter in New York said that many people, seduced by the dogs' cuddly screen image, had been unprepared for the breed's energetic manner, hot-headedness and general recalcitrance.

## Stallone swaps narcissism for introspection

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

FORGET Rambo and Rocky: Sylvester Stallone yesterday announced a new, softer and more cerebral persona for his next run of films.

"The cult of the body is narcissistic and self-defeating," Stallone said in Rome, where he was laying the foundation stone of a new Planet Hollywood theme restaurant. He said his next project was a film set in the world of Formula One racing. "But it will be a psychological study. I'm not even sure I'm going to star in it myself."

He told one Italian newspaper: "I've had success few people can dream of, but for the past 11 years I have led a shallow and egotistical life. My eyes have been opened, and I'm turning over a new leaf." Even his political views have changed, he said: as

Rambo he had supported the right-wing policies of Ronald Reagan, "but now I support the more liberal views of President Clinton".

At 51, Stallone may be slowing down a little. He said the birth of a child suffering from heart problems had made him realise "how short, fragile and precarious life is". He put on weight for his last role as a paunchy New York policeman in *Copland*, shown last week at the Venice Film Festival. The cop, Freddie Heiflin, far removed from Stallone's normal muscular superhero; he is a loser, with a messy love life and no career prospects.

Yesterday, Stallone, who is of Italian-American origin, used his visit to Rome to announce that he had signed a deal with Bernie Ecclestone, the owner of Formula One racing, allowing him to make a film set in the high-octane world of motor racing. "It's an idea I've had for

some time," he said. "This deal has taken two years to put together."

Would he play a racing champion himself? "No, I am not sure I am going to be in it at all, and if I am, I'll probably waste someone behind the scenes." His idea was to follow "the lives, characters and lifestyles" of four racing drivers: one based on Michael Schumacher, one on Damon Hill, and one on Giancarlo Fisichella, the Italian Formula One driver who raced at Monza at the weekend and was with Stallone yesterday.

The fourth driver will be someone who buys his way into the sport. I'm not going to name names, I don't want to get anyone angry." His aim was to make a psychological study. "This is not a gun-muck. It will not be a one-man movie."

One of his entourage confided that Stallone might make another *Rambo*

movie, but it would present a different style of hero, "more introspective, more thoughtful, with character development". This was a bit much for Italian reporters who resorted to asking him what his favourite food was, "ice cream," he responded.

But Stallone, who looked slim and fit despite his weight increase for *Copland*, insisted he had "lost his muscles". He posed with one of the historic cinema artefacts to be displayed at the Rome Planet Hollywood: the camera used by Marcello Mastroianni in *La Dolce Vita*, valued at £155,000.

He then emerged to an ecstatic welcome from the crowd outside who chanted "Rocky, Rocky", apparently oblivious to his change of image. "It's great to be an Italian," Stallone told them, in English, before heading for the airport and Miami.



Sylvester Stallone meets driver Michael Schumacher at Monza at the weekend

THE TIMES TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 9 1997

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# Mobutu legacy of corruption stifles Congo

By SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

**MOBUTU SESE SEKO**, who reduced Zaire to poverty and chaos during 32 years in power, died on Sunday in exile in Morocco after a long battle with prostate cancer.

His relatives said he would be buried in Morocco but that the arrangement was provisional, suggesting that his final resting place could still be his homeland. Mobutu's legacy of a corrupt style of government — that led to the coining of the word "kleptocracy" — will take far longer to erase in Zaire, renamed the Democratic Republic of the Congo after his removal.

Laurent Kabila, who marched across 2,000 miles of jungle to drive Mobutu out of office with the help of troops from Uganda and Rwanda in May, is inching towards reforming a state that was allowed to implode by Mobutu. But serious questions remain over whether Mr Kabila is the real power in the Congo, since his armed forces still rely heavily on Tutsi manpower from Rwanda.

The jury is still out on Kabila and his entire regime. There has been a marked improvement in attitude compared to the Mobutu era. People turn up for work and corruption is being weeded out, civil servants are getting paid. But he has yet to cement his support among the urban elite, without whom he cannot hope to govern effectively," said a Western ambassador in Kinshasa, the capital.

Yesterday, Mr Kabila left for Kigali, the Rwandan capital, where he was to hold talks with Paul Kagame, the Defence Minister and Vice-President. Mr Kagame admitted recently to having sent officers and large numbers of troops to fight in Mr Kabila's rebellion that toppled Mobutu.

For the first time in three decades, ministers who take bribes may be prosecuted. In July, Mr Kabila's former Finance Minister, Mawapanga Mawa Nanga, was the subject of a police inquiry after allegations of corruption were made. The President's main challenge is to defend himself against charges that he will be "another Mobutu" by addressing domestic and international calls for greater democracy, while rebuilding a nation 80 times the size of Belgium, its former colonial master. The country has no road or rail

routes linking its main cities and has a per capita income that is too low to warrant measuring. Key towns such as Kilwii, 200 miles east of the capital, have no regular power supply. In towns, trees grow

through the tarmacadam of main streets and transistor batteries are a forgotten luxury.

Pro-democracy activists who opposed Mobutu — but never took up arms — have complained bitterly about the new regime's curbs on their right to demonstrate for greater freedoms. Human rights groups said yesterday that a student was killed last week in clashes with troops on Kinshasa's main campus. At least 20 demonstrators have been killed in recent demonstrations calling for greater rights.

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## Dictator who delighted in chaos and witchcraft

"YOU know what his name really means?" smirked Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu wa za Banga's Minister of Information.

"It's not what we tell you — about him being the warrior who will never be vanquished and all that. It means 'the cockrel who jumps all the chicks in the farm yard,'" he snickered. "The old man has coddled all his potential opponents."

Hours after this bizarre encounter I met Mobutu. The low vulgarity of his minister was but a pale reflection of the high-kitsch leader himself.

In 1991, many of the once-gracious avenues of his capital had been reduced to rubble after an orgy of looting



Mobutu had a warped sense of humour, but the joke was invariably against his own people, Sam Kiley writes

which he orchestrated. The army, Civil Service and health workers had not been paid for months, and his Government was on the point of revolution.

But Zaire's President could not have been happier. Wearing a bright Mao-style jacket and a leopardskin hat, he traded insults with angry students on the lawn of his marble palace in Kinshasa, and shook the hand of Etienne Tshisekedi, the oppo-

sition leader he had just appointed Prime Minister, with a look of smugness.

The pleasure Mobutu took in discomfiting his enemies, in co-opting them into his web of intrigue and corruption, and his genuine enjoyment of the chaos he caused in his country were the hallmarks of his 32 years in power. They were also the cause of his downfall this year. The tall and charismatic

Joseph Desire Mobutu took power in a military coup in 1965. A former journalist and one-time CIA agent, his early years in power were marked by self-aggrandisement and corrupt buffoonery which had the support of Washington, which saw him — as one State Department official put it — as "a bastard, but our bastard" during the Cold War.

His absolute rule through the Popular Movement for the Revolution, a party neither popular nor revolutionary, was shored up by Western allies who feared that Zaire's vast natural resources, including uranium, oil, diamonds, and 60 per cent of the world's cobalt, would fall into Kremlin hands. Until

the United States and the World Bank cut funding to his Government in 1990, Mobutu was convinced he would rule Zaire until his death. By then he had unleashed a policy of "authentication" on the country, banning Christian names and Western dress. He drove away foreign capital.

But the signs of the collapse of his country were all around him. At his palace he could not have failed to note that the walls were cracking, the plush red carpets were soggy, and the gardens were a mess, with fountains choked and marble paths overgrown.

Rattled by his rejection by the West, he turned to West African marabouts, or witch

doctors, at the end of the 1980s. They reassured him with the prophecy that he would never be deposed while he lived on water, so he moved his home to the Camanola steamer moored on the Congo River.

Isolation was all he needed to ignore the cries of a people from whom he stole at least £5 billion. The marabouts' promises and a policy of unleashing the army on looting rampages whenever the opposition gained strength seemed to him the potion that would keep him in power.

Confidence oozed from his greetings. When he put a large hand on my shoulder at a reception one temporarily forgot that the man was a murderer who killed those whom he could not buy.

His rule by chaos kept him in power until Laurent Kabila, in a rapid military advance across the country, proved to Zaireans that the emperor had no clothes. Until it was too late, Mobutu neither knew nor cared, and his administration had long since been overtaken by despair.

At another of his palaces, this one alongside the Camanola, I walked past his ceremonial bodyguard — pygmies in Napoleonic cavalry uniforms, high boots and plumed hats that covered their faces. One could only assume that he had a sense of humour. But the joke was on Zaire.



Bosnian Serb policemen check cars entering Banja Luka yesterday

## Banja Luka thwarts Karadzic supporters

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BRITISH troops and police loyal to the Bosnian Serb President, Biljana Plavsic, foiled plans for an explosive rally in her stronghold by her foes, supporters of Radovan Karadzic.

Only some 500 Karadzic supporters appeared in the centre of Banja Luka at the appointed hour, chanting anti-Plavsic slogans and waving Karadzic posters. Tensions were high, with riot

police guarding Mrs Plavsic's office and the main television studio. Pro-Plavsic people, vastly outnumbering those at the failed rally, booed, jeered and chanted.

With just three days left until municipal elections in Bosnia, Dr Karadzic's Serbian Democratic Party (SDS) is in disarray. Banja Luka is at the heart of the SDS's problems, and senior leaders of the party began arriving in the town at the weekend to pave the way for a rally.

Biljana Plavsic, the moderate Bosnian Serb leader who has been given political and military support by the West in her struggle against Dr Karadzic, was taking no chances and ordered her police out in force around Banja Luka. They were backed up by armoured personnel carriers belonging to the Krajina Corps, the element of the Bosnian Serb army most loyal to Mrs Plavsic. British troops in Nato's

Stabilisation Force initially merely kept a watchful eye, but yesterday they were deployed in large numbers on the road east of Banja Luka, the main axis with the Karadzic bastions of Breko, Bijelina, Zvornik and the Drina Valley. A British Sfor spokesman said that American troops had joined the operation further east, guarding the strategic Brcko corridor which links Karadzic-controlled eastern Bosnia with Mrs Plavsic's western territory.



Howard: call for debate to be informed and calm

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## Tokyo on alert as gang wars erupt into street battles

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

TOKYO police were put on alert yesterday as a power struggle in Japan's biggest crime syndicate threatened to erupt into a full-scale gang war. Shots were fired at a gang-leader's house, the latest in a spate of shootings, and police said that a bitter struggle among yakuzas (gangsters) belonging to the Yamaguchi-gumi group was only just beginning.

Police are bracing for further retaliatory attacks triggered by the killing of Masaru Takumi, the number two man in the 18,000-strong Yamaguchi-gumi on August 28. Takumi, 61, was shot in Kobe by four gunmen believed to be members of a rival group.

The death of a bystander hit by a stray bullet shocked a nation that prides itself on safe streets and one of the world's lowest rates of crimes involving guns.

The cause of the current strife is said to be the declining strength of the yakuzas, 40 per cent of whom belong to the Yamaguchi-gumi. Lucrative rackets such as extortion, prostitution and gambling have been hit by Japan's prolonged economic recession. The gang's front businesses such as property and restaurants are also bringing in less money. The Organised Crime Control Law, introduced in 1992, has further reduced the pickings.

Since police began their crackdown, crime syndicates have been forced to streamline operations. This has led to a great deal of bitterness

among those who have lost their livelihoods. Unemployed yakuzas — conspicuous by their gaudy tattoos, and missing little fingers severed in a display of loyalty — are not the immediate choice of personnel managers hunting for new staff.

Takumi, the slain gang leader, was a strong believer in the yakuzas tradition of not causing trouble to the public and was at pains to improve the Yamaguchi-gumi's image: it was his idea to start a soup-kitchen for Kobe earthquake survivors two years ago.

But he attracted hostility for his tough restructuring methods. Weaker groups within the Yamaguchi-gumi were dissolved when their bosses died or retired, and their members pushed out. In particular, a group called the Nakano-kai, objected to the way Takumi was running the group.

Last week Yamaguchi-gumi leaders decided to expel this group's boss, Taro Nakano, because of his suspected involvement in Takumi's death. The Nakano-kai is believed to be the target of the daily shooting incidents in which two suspected yakuzas have been wounded so far.

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# The love that showed up on film

In the first of three extracts from her new book, Anne Sebba examines Malcolm Muggeridge's role in the Mother Teresa phenomenon



## MOTHER TERESA

### Beyond — the — image

**T**he beginning of the Sixties coincided with a tremendous momentum in Mother Teresa's charitable operation. She started to win international awards for her work, many of them with large cash prizes. There was a potent sense of idealism around, which she harnessed better than anyone else. There was a distinct feeling that here was someone who was actually doing something to right the ills of the world instead of merely demonstrating, or smoking dope, talking of doing something.

Anyone who lived through the 1960s must remember the experimentation, the restlessness and the confusion, especially among the young. All ages react against their parents, but the 1960s were particularly vocal in dismissing the false conclusion of the previous age and in continuing to search for certainty or reassurance. Malcolm Muggeridge appeared to many to personify this quest for true goodness, or saintliness or moral truths.

Muggeridge was, in the early 1960s, not merely an agnostic but a mocker of religion in general. Born in south Croydon in 1903, he represented himself as an agonised seeker after truth who, in his youth, had flirted with the notion of becoming a priest. He made his name as a journalist on the *Manchester Guardian* and in 1934 had gone to live in India, working on the English-language *Calcutta Statesman*. On his return, he became a feature of

London literary life, partly because he had by now found his form as a writer, but also for the regularity with which he had affairs or made passes at women.

In 1968, in a rather inspired piece of casting, Oliver Hunkin, then head of religious broadcasting at the BBC, asked Muggeridge if he would do a short televised interview with a little-known nun from India. "He was rather put

**'It was for me one of those special occasions when a face seems to stand out from all other faces'**

out," Hunkin recalls, "because it was such short notice and she could only spare us an hour."

Muggeridge had not heard of Mother Teresa. But he read up the biographical notes and agreed to come to a small religious house, the Holy Child Convent in London's West End, to shoot the interview.

There were no intellectual fireworks: Mother Teresa, already small and wrinkled, appeared slightly halting and nervous as Muggeridge put the expected questions. When

All the accompanying letters made similar remarks about how Mother Teresa's words had spoken to them in a way that nobody else's had. Bewildered BBC executives decided to repeat the programme rather quickly — with an even greater response.

Muggeridge said he never imagined that anything memorable had been recorded. And yet he was smitten. He had known that from the moment she walked into the room. "It was for me one of those special occasions when a face, hitherto unknown, seems to stand out from all other faces as uniquely separate and uniquely significant, to be thenceforth forever recognisable." Almost immediately, he worked to persuade the BBC to send him with a film crew to Calcutta to record Mother Teresa in action. In the spring of 1969, he went with Peter Chafer, the producer, and Ken Macmillan, the award-winning cameraman, to make three religious films in India. Although initially reticent, Mother Teresa had apparently been persuaded to co-operate by Cardinal Heenan, Archbishop of Westminster. She agreed, she told Muggeridge, "if this TV programme is going to help people love better".

In his account of the filming, Muggeridge recounts how, while Macmillan and the sound recordist were setting up their equipment, Mother Teresa suggested going up to the chapel together and praying. "I readily agreed... We knelt side by side." Thus, from the start, Muggeridge became part of the myth of the film he was making.

The next five days are shrouded in a fairytale cloak of divine protection. That a 50-minute documentary could be made at all in five days, rather than the normal two to three months, was, Muggeridge asserts, extraordinary to a miraculous degree. Secondly, the filming proceeded with quite exceptional smoothness and speed, with none of the usual breakdowns and crises. "All this, as anyone with experience of filming expeditions will know, amounted to a kind of miracle," Muggeridge wrote.

But the "actual miracle", which has prompted considerable debate since, concerns shots taken inside the Home for the Dying, which Macmillan was initially uncomfortable about filming. "This Home for the Dying is dimly lit by small windows high up in the walls," wrote Muggeridge. "Mr Muggeridge's

way with a fact has always been cavalier," commented Bernard Levin, in his essay, *Mugg's Game*. But all the same, "small"? I recall them as arched, approximately three foot six high and three foot across... Facts do seem to be often ignored in this discussion, which usually centres on the nature of "kindly light", which Cardinal Newman refers to in his well-known hymn. Muggeridge, convinced he had witnessed the first authentic photographic

PETER DUNNE



Muggeridge: personified quest for truth

macle, wrote: "This love is luminous, like the haloes... round the heads of saints. I find it not at all surprising that the luminosity should register on a photographic film. The supernatural is only an infinite projection of the natural." In all events, Macmillan was adamant at first that filming was impossible in the Home for the Dying: the crew had only one small light and to get the place adequately lit in the time at their disposal was impossible. He had just taken delivery of some new film, which they had not even had time to test. Because of this, he agreed to have a go. "So we shot it. And when we got back, we were sitting in the rushes theatre at Ealing Studios and eventually up came the shots of the Home for the Dying, and you could see every detail. I said 'That's amazing, that's

Chafer was not alone in this view. It is impossible to know precisely what impact the film had in persuading young women to enter the Missionaries of Charity, because, within Roman Catholic circles, Mother Teresa was fairly well known. Yet by 1970 they were flocking to join, and in that year alone 139 new candidates were received into the society.

How important is it for Mother Teresa to be a miracle-maker? A saint these days is still, strictly speaking, required to have performed or

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The story of the miracle set the agenda for the next 20 years, whereby the assumption grew that God's hand was directing Mother Teresa

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extraordinary. And I was going to say, three cheers for Bernard Levin, in his essay, *Mugg's Game*. But all the same, "small"? I recall them as arched, approximately three foot six high and three foot across... Facts do seem to be often ignored in this discussion, which usually centres on the nature of "kindly light", which Cardinal Newman refers to in his well-known hymn. Muggeridge, convinced he had witnessed the first authentic photographic

been responsible for two miracles for beatification and two more after beatification for canonisation. If the case is based on "virtue" rather than "martyrdom", more might be required. And yet that is not what all the fuss is about, as the Pope can decide to dispense with the requirements. Muggeridge was not making a premature case for Mother Teresa's canonisation. He was trying to refute the then common assumption that science had all the answers, to the discredit of religion. But the story of the miracle was important because it set the agenda for the next 20 years whereby the assumption slowly grew that God's hand was directing Mother Teresa, and to question anything she did was therefore unacceptable.

Chafer described to me the process of anyone who she felt was damaging the cause as being "fingered by God". The sisters' conviction that God is directing them, because their

prayers are answered so often by clothes, medicine or money, and even on one occasion by a snowplough to help during a hard winter in New York, has persuaded many of a less credulous bent to believe that there must be some higher purpose to all that they do.

This is the fundamental basis upon which rests everything else the Missionaries of Charity do, and the real importance of Muggeridge's film is that it gave credence to this fundamental belief.

To challenge to question or doubt is to confront a much higher authority. All but the most ardent atheist does so at his or her peril. It is this, emanating from Muggeridge's film, that has helped to make Mother Teresa, in the words of the journalist Christopher Hitchens the "least criticised human being on Earth".

● Mother Teresa — Beyond the Image, by Anne Sebba. Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20

#### TOMORROW

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**HALIBORANGE**

# 'I can spare 40 minutes. So, show me why I should date you – or get lost'

**D**ating in New York is fraught with hazards. Just meeting another single (and romantically willing) person is an obstacle course of blind dates, dating services (such as "It's Just Lunch", which caters for busy professionals), the personal ads or just plain luck.

Even if you meet someone, there is another hurdle: most single New Yorkers have pared their personal lives down so much that the average date lasts no more than an hour, the same amount of time you might spend at a job interview – which is just how many New Yorkers view the dating process.

Rubiness runs through every social engagement – you have one shot at making the right impression on your date. Francesca Castagnoli, 26, a writer for *Mademoiselle* magazine, says: "New Yorkers are goal-oriented, and the attitude on a date is 'This is my job, this is what I do, and we have 40 minutes to hang out to see if you're on my wavelength – otherwise, scram.' If a date is not instantly rewarding, they would rather not make the effort. People are wedded to their jobs, personal trainers and aerobics classes, where there is a guaranteed reward and satisfaction. They don't

want to spend unnecessary time on dating."

This attitude inspired three psychologists – Dr Valerie White, Dr Ann Demarais and Dr Eyal Pavell – to form a new dating service, First Impressions. Launched six months ago, it is open on Saturdays and some weekday evenings. The aim is to arm yourself for your date as you would for an interview.

Dr White, 34, and Dr Demarais, 37, have drawn on their experience of coaching executives of Fortune 500 companies on communication skills. "When we meet someone for the first time, there is often a gap between the way we are perceived and the ways others perceive us," says Dr White. "F.I. can bridge that gap. By interacting with you on a simulated date, then giving you feedback on the impression you make, an F.I. consultant [several other psychologists work part-time] can show you how to capitalise on your best qualities."

For a fee, of course – analysing your dating skills will cost you \$200. And isn't

there a danger of clients and doctors falling in love? They shake their heads vigorously. "For a start, we are all in long-term relationships. Secondly, it would be highly unprofessional to want to date a client," says Dr Demarais. They're not joking. I was

**They are wedded to their careers, personal trainers and aerobics classes, where satisfaction is guaranteed**

asked to sign a "Participation Agreement", which stated: "I understand the date is purely a simulation and that there will be no physical contact between myself and the dating consultant. I agree not to pursue the consultant for social or romantic encounters."

With this in mind, I decided to take the bull by the horns and offer up my soul for inspection, and see if my rusty skills (I am happily attached) could be put back into use.

I was waiting, my palms sweating, at the designated spot in SoHo, downtown New York, when a tall, dark and attractive stranger asked me if I was his blind date. I nodded and followed him into the Paninoteca Café. After introducing himself as management consultant "Nick Brown", our date got under way. For the next hour, we discussed everything from the latest movies, books, politics and our respective professions to more personal topics, such as family relationships.

The date seemed to run smoothly, we got on amicably enough, and at the end he asked me out on a second date. I accepted happily enough, then realised it was time for the tough part. We arranged to

meet back at the F.I. offices half an hour later, where we spent the next two hours evaluating my performance.

"Nick", alias Dr Pavell, 33, started by saying that he would focus on my positive aspects first. He consulted a checklist as long as my arm, filled with comments such as "does not discuss health excessively", "does not discuss marriage", "is not excessively self-focused", "does not fidget", "does not express boredom by yawning". I was dissected on every level, from my appearance, conduct and sense of humour to the level of interest I showed in "Nick".

"You exuded self-confidence, and I was very comfortable with you most of the time," says Dr Pavell. "You are 'high performance' – you score well on most levels, and don't have any big problems – just a few negatives. For example, it felt like you when you asked 'What is your type?' That is too premature to ask on a first date. And you must allow more room for your date. I felt I didn't have the chance to offer you a drink when we first sat down, and you tended to steer the conversation – it is a two-way street."

With this in mind, I decided to take the bull by the horns and offer up my soul for inspection, and see if my rusty skills (I am happily attached) could be put back into use. I was waiting, my palms sweating, at the designated spot in SoHo, downtown New York, when a tall, dark and attractive stranger asked me if I was his blind date. I nodded and followed him into the Paninoteca Café. After introducing himself as management consultant "Nick Brown", our date got under way. For the next hour, we discussed everything from the latest movies, books, politics and our respective professions to more personal topics, such as family relationships.

The date seemed to run smoothly, we got on amicably enough, and at the end he asked me out on a second date. I accepted happily enough, then realised it was time for the tough part. We arranged to

thing positive, into letting the real person shine through.

"Another type has gone on hundreds of dates, and is very high-performing – a Wall Street professional, say, who has social graces down to a T. And there are those who've been out of the game for years, and find themselves divorced or widowed, or are unfamiliar with dating in this city or country."

One recent client, David Carr, 32, is a civil lawyer who lives in Manhattan. "I've been single and dating for a long time. Several times things have not worked out and I couldn't understand why. I felt like there was something I wasn't picking up on."

"The service was insightful. I found that although my conversational skills were good, and I came across as

confident, I focused too much on myself, and was prone to bragging. There was an imbalance in the conversation; apart from feeling self-centred, I was listening to what the other person had to say with only half an ear, and making insincere comments. I was communicating that the other person really wasn't important to me."

"I was happy for someone to put it into words, and help me start remedying my negative points. I pay a lot more attention to my date, am less dominant and really listen to what they have to say. And it has worked. I've seen one girl three times, and as I don't want to mess it up, I've decided to go on a follow-up session at F.I. to fine-tune my skills."

Chloe Adams, 36, is an engineer who had been married for ten years before being thrust back into the world of singleness. She has dated sporadically, but felt people seemed to be taking her the wrong way.

"People just don't have time to make mistakes or experiment. And people love hearing more about themselves."

"But it's not a bad idea, either. If you are going out dozens of times, and making the same turn-off mistakes, then it's best to discover what you're doing wrong."

Over the next couple of years, F.I. hopes to franchise the service and expand to Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco. And it is looking at London as a potential site, too.

"Londoners are just like New Yorkers – they are busy and career-driven, they are living in a multicultural environment and they use dating services and personal ads, like us. I'm sure we could be of use there," says Dr Demarais.

• *First Impressions*: 001 212 219 0923



Juliette Dominguez on her simulated blind date with "Nick Brown", alias Dr Eyal Pavell: "I was dissected on every level, from my appearance to the level of interest I showed in him"

Huge  
Pages  
in City

Single New Yorkers usually have only one shot at making a good impression, so many find it pays to consult a specialist, writes Juliette Dominguez

Juliette Dominguez</p

Richard Cork surveys the work of the Mexican revolutionary, in life as in art, David Alfaro Siqueiros

# Look back on a lifetime of anger

One night in May 1940, David Alfaro Siqueiros, his wife, brother and two friends, burst into Leon Trotsky's house in Mexico City. Cornered in his bedroom, the exiled Russian was easy prey. But Siqueiros and his heavily armed associates bungled the assassination, firing through the closed bedroom door while Trotsky hid under the bed.

What had started out as a murder attempt ended in farce. Having failed to pin suspicion on his arch-rival Diego Rivera, Siqueiros found himself hunted by the police and, after Trotsky was killed by others in August, imprisoned. As a Stalinist hitman, he had been a disaster. But as a fiercely committed revolutionary muralist, he went on to become a hero in his own country. Public buildings across Mexico City are still emblazoned with his dynamic, belligerent wall-paintings, executed on the grandest scale imaginable.

How can such an artist ever be represented in an exhibition? The question hangs over the Whitechapel Art Gallery's survey of one tumultuous decade in Siqueiros's long career. Starting in 1930, when he was arrested and incarcerated in the Lecumberri Penitentiary, the survey brings together many of the most important easel paintings and graphic works he produced over the next ten years. But an exploration of his murals is inevitably confined to a video screened in the gallery, and it can only hope to convey their sheer visceral impact.

Compared with their headlong fervour, the pictures assembled at the Whitechapel seem disappointingly subdued. Predominantly dour, the paintings suggest that Siqueiros had a puritanical mistrust of colour. His murals prove otherwise; but when at work away from the hospitals and palaces where his headiest ambitions were fulfilled, he sacrificed all that exuberance for a darker alternative.

Once I had adjusted to the gloom, though, Siqueiros's individuality began to emerge. In a 1934 self-portrait, he refuses to see himself as a static, contemplative character. Executed in a typically idiosyncratic combination of black crayon and tempera on a zinc support, it shows him with mouth parted and wild, protruding eyes. The white marks slashed across his forehead, nose and cheek look as aggressive as warpaint.

No wonder he was so often jailed. The pursuit of art alone, divorced from political struggle, would never have satisfied this instinctive activist. He gave up painting altogether in the late 1920s, devoting himself instead to militant union struggles. But after meeting Eisenstein in 1931, he turned

**A disaster as a hitman, he became a hero as a muralist**

back to art and held his first one-man show the following year.

The sombre mood of his pictures is understandable, given the time Siqueiros had spent in prison. Most of the figures he paints are alone, and hard to discern in the shadows encircling them. One seated woman is based on a 60-year-old peasant who offered to pose for her portrait. But Siqueiros made her gaunt, hooded face look younger, and she hugs herself on a hard, coffin-like box as if desperate for comfort.

Siqueiros's brushwork is the opposite of seductive. He heaps on the pigment until it forms a heavily corrugated surface, so solid that the images end up with a strong

Siqueiros himself seems to have been spared torture during his incarceration at Lecumberri. Ever resourceful, he used fragments of crates to carve a series of 13 small woodcuts. Subsequently printed on bright orange tissue paper, they are among the liveliest and most concise of all his works. Their mood, however, remains uncompromising. Single figures of prisoners, bound and helpless, are juxtaposed with ranks of identical, implacable guards. For all the prints' grimness, though, some highlight more tender feelings. A faceless mother clasps her child in a passionate embrace, as if afraid that her offspring might be snatched away like so many other women's husbands and sons.

Soon afterwards, Siqueiros painted a much larger picture of a child alone. The boy's expression is stunned, and he slumps onto the pavement like a bewildered orphan with nowhere else to go. Siqueiros became preoccupied with the plight of all those Mexicans bereaved and impoverished by the perpetual internecine conflicts. One of his most monumental easel paintings shows a *Proletarian Mother*, hunched and squatting against bleak brick walls. They hem her in, and the three infants surrounding the woman claw despairingly at her body. Paralysed by wretchedness, she makes no attempt to reassure them. The children seem to increase their mother's misery, reminding her how incapable she is of alleviating their distress.

Siqueiros became even harsher when he painted a *Proletarian Victim*. Full-breasted and sinewy, the grey-haired woman is built according to heroic proportions. But her limbs are trussed tightly with thick ropes, and blood seeping from

a gunshot wound in her head shows she has been executed. Painfully pressed in close-up against the rasping, hairy surface of the burlap, the corpse shows Siqueiros's eagerness to break out of the easel picture's confines.

**H**is decision to paint it with pyroxylin, a commercial enamel initially used for the exteriors of aeroplanes, also demonstrates his willingness to experiment with new media. This technical innovation came to a head when he moved to New York in 1935. Establishing a major workshop where his students included Philip Guston and Jackson Pollock, he encouraged them to drip and pool their paint. The significance of this unfettered approach for the development of postwar American abstraction hardly needs stressing.

But Siqueiros himself stayed faithful to figurative art, and the paintings of the late 1930s

benefited from a new boldness. Ceramic fragments are used with oil and pyroxylin in *The End of the World*, a fiery and apocalyptic protest against the Luftwaffe's bombing of Toledo. Siqueiros became so involved with the Spanish Civil War that he gave up art for two years. Even so, he returned to painting with renewed power.

*Down but not Defeated* is his pugnacious title for the coiled, muscular figure who hits the ground in a wrenchingly foreshortened pose. Although the man has been defeated by Franco, his fists remain tightly bunched and his hair fizzes with nervous resilience.

Siqueiros's baleful 1939 self-portrait is mesmerising, centred on a bloodshot eye widened in foreboding. He looks older now, and maniac enough to embark on the Trotsky escapade a year later. But the anguish in his furrowed face is prescient, too, gazing with alarm at a world on the edge of annihilation.

• *Whitechapel Art Gallery* (0171 522 7878) until Nov 2

**THE END OF THE WORLD**

**DOWN BUT NOT DEFEATED**

**THE PROLETARIAN MOTHER**

**THE PROLETARIAN VICTIM**

**THE END OF THE WORLD**

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**THE PROLETARIAN MOTHER**

# Bad guys are lionised

Wesley Snipes, playing an adulterer, and 'the Japanese Tarantino' took top honours at the Venice Film Festival. David Robinson reports

The Venice Film Festival jury — which included Francesca Rosi, Charlotte Rampling and Jane Campion as president — did not have all that much to choose from. In a better year it is unlikely that Takeshi Kitano's *Hana-Bi* would have walked off with the Golden Lion. It was a popular choice nonetheless. Kitano is currently top-of-the-market cult figure, popularly styled the Japanese Tarantino, and with Tarantino's combination of technical virtuosity and sense of prevailing taste.

Born in 1947, he abandoned engineering to become a comedian under the name of 'Bear Takeshi', in a duo called *The Two Beats*. His outrageous and disrespectful comedy rapidly made him a household name as a TV personality. In 1989 he began to direct films, generally playing the main role, and in 1992 he soared to international fame with *Sonatine*.

*Hana-Bi* follows much the same formula as *Sonatine* — tidily crafted, with non-stop, stylised violence and 'artistic' interludes and overlays to reassure the serious spectator in case he feels he is getting too gratuitous a kick out of visceral shocks like gun massacres or a precisely pierced eye.

Kitano (billed as 'Bear Takeshi') himself plays a police detective who gets mixed up with loan sharks and yakuza when he needs money for a wife dying of cancer. The director relishes the comedy of his own cult status, and snatched the limelight at the Venice awards ceremony, prancing around like the comic demon in a Japanese woodcut and flashing rude V-signs for the cameras.

The last-night audience made it plain that they were less pleased with the award of the Special Gold Prize to Italy's own entry, Paolo Virzì's *Ossodo*, a sympathetic enough picture of contemporary social structures seen through the experiences of a boy growing up in a deprived working-class quarter of Livorno. The script prize went to Anne Fontaine's *Nettoyage Sec* (*Dry Cleaning*), a lethal drama of character that might have been a subject for Claude Chabrol. A young bourgeois couple adopt a chance acquaintance, a fascinating youth who does an act in a drag club. He proves a wizard at the steam iron; but introduces even steamier sensations to their private life. Well sustained and beautifully played (Mitou-Miou, Charles Berling, Stanislas Merhar), it could well merit commercial distribution in this country.

**FIRST**, a confession: Save for a few quotations picked up elsewhere I know Chaucer only from the stage and, and the stage being what it is, mine is the Chaucer of cheeky young seducers and farts in the night. Perhaps this is most people's Chaucer, unless they be philologists or students of Eng Lit.

So once again this latest version of his medieval trapse through Kent gives us the Miller's tale about a reeve and the Reeve's tale about a miller, although the originals are almost impenetrably concealed beneath the trappings of a Viking household and the posturing of two ihyphallic

The acting prizes went to Hollywood: Wesley Snipes for his role as a man whose marriage disintegrates after the brief indiscretion of Mike Figgis's *One Night Stand*; a few newcomer, Robin Tunney, for a disturbing performance as a young alcoholic with Tourette syndrome in Bob Gose's *Niagara Niagara*. The prize for Graeme Revell's music was slight consolation for Wayne Wang's disappointing *Chinese Box*, which explores the traumas of Hong Kong handover through the love affairs of a querulous leukaemia patient (Jeremy Irons, naturally) and two starry Chinese beauties (Gong Li, Maggie Cheung).

The better rewards were generally to be found outside the competition. Following his 1995 Sundance Festival prize for a shoe-string marvel, *Heavy*, James Mangold successfully enters the big time with *Cop Land*, a formula but brisk thriller about a group of lethally corrupt New York cops sheltered in a Mafia-protected enclave in New Jersey. Tired, paunchy and endearing, Sylvester Stallone, the local sheriff who fights back, upstages even Robert De Niro and Harvey Keitel.

The Danish virtuoso Lars von Trier, after last year's success with *Breaking the Waves*, has resumed his television series *The Kingdom*. Hospital soap opera is transmuted with the absurd, the surreal, farce, schlock horror and sour social commentary. The film weaves the stories of Copenhagen's biggest hospital, from the inept consultants to the junior doctors taking bets on the crazed ambulance driver's next road accident, and the idiot-savants who wash up in the kitchen and provide a Greek chorus. To see all six episodes in one five-hour session is overdose; but von Trier's anarchic may prove a tonic for numbered soap-addicts.

The International Critics made special mention of *La Memoriaire Inre Gyöngyössy*, an appropriately passionate tribute to the Hungarian poet, filmmaker and Stalin-era political prisoner, made by his widow Karin Petenyi and long-time collaborator Barna Kabay. By happy coincidence, on the day of this memorial screening, the director's son Bence Gyöngyössy took the prize for best first feature at the Montreal Festival with *Romani Kris* (*Gypsy Lore*), the lyrical story of a contemporary gypsy King Lear.

The closing show was the occasion for a British world premiere which must break all records: three fragmented Victorian films that have waited



Wesley Snipes strolled to the best actor award for *One Night Stand*

for 107 years to be seen. They were shot in 1899-90, five years before the official birth of the cinema, by William Friese-Greene, on cameras of his own invention. Unfortunately he was financially ruined before he could devise a projector, and his films were never seen. Lost for most of a century, they finally turned up in the Cinémathèque Française. Only within the past few months have digital techniques made it possible to copy the fragile prints.

Undoubtedly the world's earliest celluloid motion picture films, they flash and flicker, but the images are there, a vital if misty link with a distant past. A newsboy in King's Road, Chelsea, watches a hansom cab go by; ladies in bustles and gentlemen in silk hats walk jerkily by in Hyde Park. Long discredited, Friese-Greene now has his place among the Victorian fathers of cinematography finally and even gloriously vindicated in Venice.

## A very parfait night out

### THEATRE

The Canterbury Tales  
New End, NW3

actors somewhere in Italy. Anachronism rules, as one could have expected.

The two other contributions are the Knight's account of love and jousting in Ancient Athens, and the Pardoner's tale about three rogues who stab or poison each other for a bag of gold. I could not accept that the daughter of Theseus and Hippolyta would be called Emily so I blew the dust off my Chaucer and looked her up.

John Colgrave's production

has come down south from Yorkshire's Lawrence Batley Theatre, where Ron McAlister is artistic director. McAlister has composed some quite clever pastiche tunes for the show, and Richard Hope's lyrics are often quite clever too. He turns the

Athens tale into ingeniously rhymed couplets, broadly of the send-up school of writing: "This incarceration is not why I weep. I've fallen in love, knight, while kept in this keep."

However, Hope frames the four stories in an absolutely terrible tale about ghosts celebrating the anniversaries of their deaths with storytelling.

Had the seats of the New End been fitted with elevators, I

would have activated mine after the first ten minutes and shot out through the roof.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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# Trudging towards a new dawn

Reassuringly real, the TUC still has a future, says John Lloyd

Launched yesterday with our celebrity, the TUC conference remains what it has been for decades: the annual expression of a movement of substance. If, as last week appears to have shown, image and symbolism are to play as large a part in national political life as does reality, then the TUC is clearly out of step. It can change — has changed, is changing — but cannot reinvent itself. It remains too rooted in the day-by-day, in the detail and the felt experience — what people must face when they turn away from the highs and the lows manufactured by the media.

Yet this could be a plus. There could be a place in public life for an institution which refuses to submit to the law that only hyper-visibility confers meaning; that suffering requires the ministrations of a Princess, for example. The TUC could become the symbol of a body which refuses to be treated merely as a symbol; the image of a modernised estate of the real which is interested in more than image.

This is one way forward for the TUC. There are three others.

The partnership which is the theme of this week's conference can yield fruit for the unions and for the country. The TUC has, since the election, rapidly deepened a dialogue with the Confederation of British Industry which, before May 1, was largely confined to health and safety at work. They agree about much on Europe and the economy; they have opened a debate on how flexibility should be defined and operated.

The contentious area between them is union recognition. Labour has pledged to legislate for a statutory recognition of unions where membership exceeds 50 per cent of a given workforce. It was a vague manifesto commitment and is now being thrashed through between the industry and union representatives with no expectation of agreement, but some expectation of reaching greater clarity.

The Prime Minister has told John Monks, the TUC General Secretary, to come back to him with the nearest he can get to a consensus on recognition; on that basis a White Paper will be issued. This will be a real test of partnership for industry and the unions. The latter have had to swallow much these past two decades, and have digested much of that; now, companies are challenged to produce an environment more comfortable in a real — not a symbolic — sense for their workers. The unions say they want to co-operate in ensuring that changes do not threaten productivity or profitability; it would seem a good time to test their intentions.

Secondly, the CBI and the TUC find most harmony on the single European currency — although the unions are committed to enter in the first wave, while the employers are more cautious. Both strongly agree that the level of sterling is damaging to jobs and must

## The most contentious area now is union recognition

Unions have tried in various ways to organise the working excluded, with limited success. But they are trying new ways — the creation of an "organising academy" will be endorsed this week, where fiery spirits will be taught to channel their idealism into recruitment campaigns.

Inevitably, the unions will be drawn into making the fight they pick with employers accord more with the themes of the popular media. They have tried, in this congress, by publicising the names of a handful of large "bad employers" who keep out unions and offer low pay. It is a sign of a new kind of public consciousness, as well as an abandonment of remnants of a general anti-capitalist case.

Unions have roles, real and not symbolic, at the top and bottom of the social order. The TUC is well led, on its return general secretaries constrained to be realistic, the Prime Minister and Government non-committally friendly. If the unions do not succeed now, then the underlying forces in the economy which have been responsible for defeating their ranks will be seen to dominate over the political and the voluntary.

And then, they really will need a celebrity. But by then it will be too late.

The author is associate editor of the New Statesman

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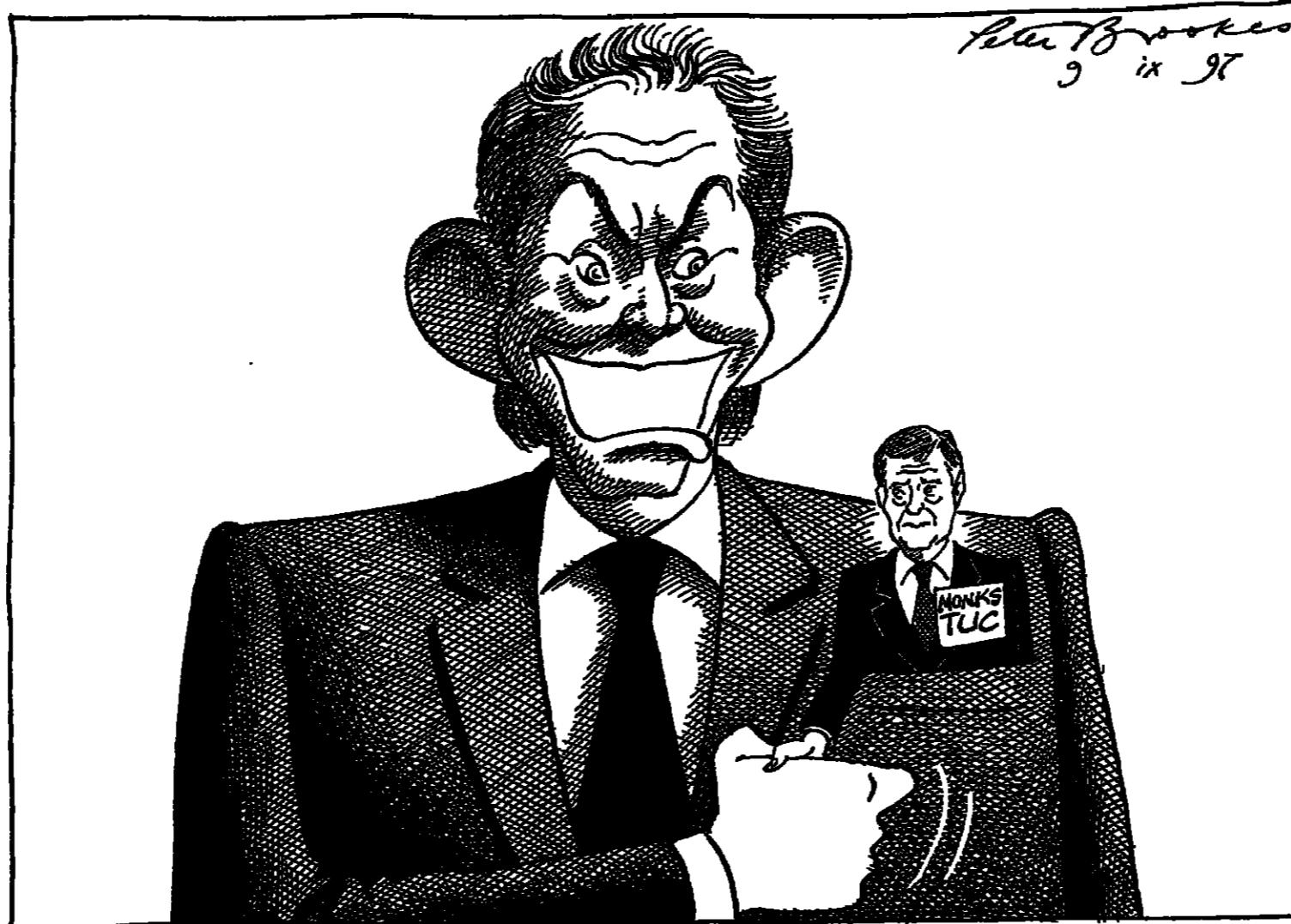
# Satanic version

FAIRYTALE? Or Greek tragedy? Instead, for Salman Rushdie the life and death of Diana, Princess of Wales, is straight from the stomach-churning pages of J.G. Ballard's *Crash*.

Rushdie draws a shocking analogy in the latest edition of *The New Yorker* to argue that Diana died in a "sublimated sexual assault". Thus, he says, parallels the dark themes in Ballard's book and in David Cronenberg's film in which the perverted eroticism of car crashes echoes the twisted nihilism of a society in decline.

"In Diana's fatal crash," says Rushdie, "the Camera (as both Reporter and Lover) is joined by the Automobile and the Star, and the cocktail of death and desire becomes even more powerful than the one in Ballard's book."

"The object of desire is repeatedly subjected to the unwelcome attentions of a persistent suitor (the Camera) until the dashing, glamorous knight (riding in his Automobile) sweeps her away. The Camera, with its unavoidably phallic long-lensed snout, gives pursuit. And the story reaches its tragic climax, for the automobile is driven not by a hero but by a



# Bravely said, brother

Earl Spencer may not be a diplomat, but he spoke straight from the heart

of you, I want to keep on moping but we mustn't, must we?

I hoped not to be part of this. The weekend mostly passed in what felt like a reasonably appropriate contemplative quiet, talking with my children, sewing and sorting and marking things for the new school term. Life far from cities and cathedrals was normal, if quiet and tinged with the universal sadness. The queue stretched a little way outside Saxmundham Market Hall to sign the book of condolence, everybody shut their shops and friends talked quietly about the senseless sadness of it all, and how it brought to mind past losses of their own. I would rather have left it there, something never to be forgotten but not to be harped on. However, with apologies, I am going to add my one last word. I want to defend Earl Spencer, all the way.

Some of the phrases used about his funeral eulogy have been extraordinarily: "calculated vengeance", "brutality" and "opening wounds". He was bitter, they said, "inappropriate... divisive... ill-judged". Irrelevant, too, just an "expatriate uncle" from a "dysfunctional family" which could offer little to his nephews.

Then the political writers break cover, with a graceless rant from an archetypal Tory boy in *The Sunday Telegraph* accusing Labour spin-doctors of somehow stealing Diana. Print sneers at television while watching every frame, television steals newspaper angles while sneering back. Talk Radio asks listeners to nominate an actress to play "D" in the biopic. Only Radio 4, an oasis of phlegm, decides that what the national psyche requires is a repeat of *The Winslow Boy* and *Penelope Keith* reading *Winnie the Pooh*.

All other news is drowned by the roaring of the wind-machine: even yesterday, plucky little souls attempting to interest us in Scottish devolution struggled like mountaineers trying to pitch a pup tent in a hurricane. Only the irreplaceable Terry Wogan struck a bearable note on Radio 2: "Ah now, I'm like the rest

brothers and to me Lord Spencer sounded just right. Analysts may pretend that his words were political or iconoclastic; instinct accepts them as brotherly and brave.

What did he speak, but the plain truth? It is true that Diana's qualities did not depend on royal title alone. Cynics predicted that the fascination with her would diminish when she lost a part of that title, but it did not. She shone even brighter alone, more fascinating to worshippers and more comforting to those whose sadness she tried to alleviate. Why should her brother not say so? It is a fact.

And he did not, after all, gloss over other facts, such as her emotional vulnerability and her eating disorder.

Stripped bare by grief, rejecting cliché and platitudes, he spoke of his sister with the frankness which is a brother's privilege.

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It is, these days, a largely unsung relationship; but several women said to me that last week they wished for the first time ever that they had a brother of their own. Even those with sisters said it. There is powerful, ancient comfort to be felt at the idea of a man — without the possessiveness of a husband or the authority of a father — defending and praising a woman strongly but without illusions: giving a tribute better than admiration, glowing with utter familiarity but untainted by the weariness and guilt of daily contact. I have three

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ing, yes  
— but  
What?  
...  
ter Riddell



## SPACE FOR DREAMS

In space, sound science should go together with benign politics

Mir's main computer broke down yesterday, 1,500 and something in the long saga of troubles on the space station. Each of this summer's emergencies has been followed by more or less heroic salvage operations, a blend of modern science and DIY cobblering that would have warned Heath Robinson's heart. These incidents have also shown that in perseverance and talent for improvisation, Russia's cosmonauts and space scientists are second to none. So long as lives are not lost, even bad publicity can spark popular interest. But Mir's misfits ought also to sharpen debate about just what man should be attempting in space.

Mir's battered condition is no surprise; although some of the scientific modules attached to it are of more recent date, the ship's core has been in orbit for 11 years, double its planned life. This is an unmatched achievement. But inevitably, Mir's woes invite comparison with the unmanned Pathfinder mission to Mars, a triumph for the robotic scientists of America's National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa). The first in a planned series of ten such missions, Pathfinder and its Sojourner robot have cost Nasa a modest \$286 million — reflecting Nasa's pledge to find "cheaper, faster, better" ways to explore space.

The comparison has sharpened the debate between enthusiasts for putting humans in space and those who contend that brainpower transferred to robots is a sounder scientific investment. Mir's main use nowadays is as test-bed for work on the Alpha space station, due to be launched in stages between next year and 2003, in which the US, Russia, the European Union, Canada and Japan are investing not less than \$20 billion. It is unclear what new worlds this orbiting monster, five times as heavy as Mir and the size of a football pitch, can hope to conquer.

Alpha is not just a scientific project but the centrepiece of America's grand strategic programme of binding Russia, and Russian science, to the West. Its origins lie in President Clinton's order to Nasa, back in

1993, to work with Russia instead of competing with it. Two years later, the first American space shuttle docked with Mir, where mixed crews have since learnt to work together while American and Russian scientists sit shoulder to shoulder at Mission Control. American scientists judge that this experience has enabled their manned space programme to jump ahead by five years. In return, America is contributing \$473 million to Mir over five years, making it one of the few parts of Russia's space programme which sees the colour of real money instead of unreliable government promissory notes.

Russia's budgetary problems are, however, seriously delaying the Alpha project. Coupled with the ignominious fate of Russia's Mars '96 probe, which plunged into the Pacific last November shortly after launch, this has prompted questions about Moscow's value as a space partner. Standard cost-benefit calculations are short-sighted, however, and not only because the hugely innovative technology devised for Mars '96 commands scientists' respect. Russia still makes the world's finest and highly profitable rockets — technology as applicable to war as to peace. The West has every interest in joint enterprises that engage the brains of Russia's world-class, underpaid, space scientists and engineers.

But rather than building Alpha components, Russian brainpower might better be employed combining with American expertise to upgrade the unmanned missions to Mars and other planets which are yielding dramatic scientific gains at low cost. If manned missions do have a future, it might be wiser to abort the plans for the next orbiting station and concentrate scientific and financial resources on Nasa's longer-term goal of a manned mission direct to Mars. Mr Clinton is right to champion co-operation in space for the political and economic, as well as scientific, benefits it can yield on Earth. But this co-operation will be most effective and thus most durable if it yields solid scientific returns.

## STUCK IN THE PAST

Trade unions have yet to understand the point of flexibility

One of the first rules of negotiation is not to ask for the earth. This is a lesson that some British trade unionists have still to learn. It was not enough for John Monks, General Secretary of the TUC, to warn his colleagues yesterday: "Don't dream too much; face reality." Still they stood up at the annual TUC conference to demand the undesirable and impossible from the Government.

The latest campaign is for the implementation of John Smith's pledge to give workers the right to redundancy and to claims for unfair dismissal from the first day of their employment. This was a promise that the late Labour leader gave under intense pressure before the 1993 party conference, at which he needed union support to pass his one-member-one-vote reforms. Yesterday John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB union, demanded universal rights from day one and the conference approved a policy resolution backing him.

Yet Mr Smith's promise was soon reversed by Tony Blair when he became Labour leader. To press for a return to the past is as quixotic as calling for nationalisation of the commanding heights of the economy. Trade unions cannot even claim that they are moving further and faster than the Government and that ministers will eventually catch up. Mr Blair is moving in the opposite direction; if he will not give in now, he is most unlikely to do so later.

His intransigence makes perfect economic

sense. Employment rights from day one have never been implemented by any previous Labour Government. The reason is that they swiftly turn into benefit rights. For employers are far less likely to take on new workers if they face expensive redundancy or dismissal claims from the start.

It is easy to make a mistake in hiring people; this must be allowed to be rectified. But more important, employers need to be able to lay off staff in periods of slack demand and to rehire when the economy picks up. Trade unions always used to be in favour of the "last-in-first-out" principle; if those who have served less than two years are the first to go, this ought to be seen as just.

There will always be a few unscrupulous employers who make a point of hiring people for one year and 364 days before dismissing them. But if the qualifying period were reduced, say, to six months, these employees' jobs would be even less secure. They would work for five months and 30 days instead.

Almost all economists agree that the reason why Britain's unemployment levels now fall more sharply during a recovery than those of other European countries is that the Conservative labour market reforms have made taking on new workers less of a risk. Trade union leaders ought to appreciate these virtues. Instead, for all their crocodile tears for the unemployed, they are far more interested in enhancing the "rights" of their dwindling band of working members.

## DEATH OF A KLEPTOCRAT

Congolese are still counting the heavy cost of Mobutu's misrule

Few will mourn for Mobutu Sese Seko, the ousted dictator of Zaire who died in exile in Morocco on Sunday. In the country this prince of kleptocrats — the word was coined for him — pillaged for more than 30 years, people are still as angry at the destruction he left as they are despairing of quick improvement under its new rulers. The brief euphoria when the victorious rebel army of Laurent Kabila swept into Kinshasa in May has already subsided. The symbolic change of name to the Democratic Republic of Congo cannot mask the immensity of the task facing Mr Kabila. Corruption, violence and plunder are long-established norms. A new start demands time, patience and money.

Some newspapers are now voicing popular frustrations as well as the partisan demands of politicians, not all of them discredited, now excluded from power. The criticisms range from the Government's failure to legalise political parties and establish a constitutional commission to the venality of officials and the delays to new investment in roads, agriculture and mining.

Many of the expectations are overblown: even the holding of free elections is seen by most Western diplomats in Kinshasa as unrealistic in the present chaotic conditions. But there are two grievances which Mr Kabila must address quickly if he is to consolidate and legitimise his shaky hold on power. The first is the pervasive influence of the military; the second is the disappearance of thousands of Rwandan Hutu refugees and the obstruction of all United Nations attempts to reach or succour them.

Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General,

said yesterday that he had received Mr Kabila's assurance that a delayed UN investigation into alleged massacres could proceed. If true, that is an overture and welcome step. But there must be scepticism about such assurances. A UN investigating team, headed by Roberto Garretón of Chile, arrived in Kinshasa two weeks ago, but met only new limitations. Mr Kabila's own Cabinet is divided, with different signals being sent to the UN almost daily.

The new President's failure to satisfy the international community over the refugees is linked to the provisional nature of his rule. Without the vast and illegally acquired wealth with which Mobutu both bribed and divided regional leaders, he has almost no way of enforcing his authority in a fissiparous country where physical communications have all but collapsed. The far-flung provinces are unwilling to submit to the discipline of a new Government that still relies on foreign-backed military forces.

There are some hopeful signs. The first is the determination of a better educated generation, especially in Kinshasa, not to allow any new strongman to crush their limited new freedoms. Secondly, Mr Kabila, with the continued support of pragmatic East African leaders who helped him to power, is ready to allow Western investors to restart abandoned mines and run-down businesses. Thirdly, Western governments are anxious to help Congo recover. The most practical immediate step they could take is to find, freeze and return to Congo the billions pillaged by the dead dictator and turned into real estate and bank accounts in the West.

## Enforceable law to protect the Princes

From Lord Donaldson of Lymington

Sir, The courts, acting on behalf of the Queen in her capacity as *parentes patriae* (parent of the nation), have an unfettered discretion to make enforceable orders prohibiting any invasion of the privacy of a child who is a ward of court.

Is it not somewhat anomalous that they have no such power in relation to their own grandchildren unless, which would be unthinkable, they should also be made wards of court?

A one-line Act of Parliament could give them similar enforceable protection, something which the Press Complaints Commission can never achieve.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN F. DONALDSON,  
House of Lords,  
September 8.

## Funeral address

From Mr Paul Wilson

Sir, I expected that I would have to endure a sad day, but I never expected that it would be made infinitely sadder by having to listen to my Queen being cruelly criticised from the pulpit of Westminster Abbey during the funeral service for the mother of her grandchildren.

Yours faithfully,  
PAUL WILSON,  
14 Residence le Clos,  
91370 Verrières le Buisson, France.  
September 8.

From Mr John R. Stoner

Sir, Isn't a father a blood relative; and the paternal grandparents and great grandmother; and the paternal uncles and aunts and cousins?

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN STONER,  
41 Manor Way,  
Onslow Village, Guildford, Surrey.

From Mr John Garnett Jones

Sir, I hope that Saturday's unprecedented demonstration of public sympathy and love will be a source of great pride to the Spencer family and a lasting assurance to them that in this great loss they are not alone.

Yours faithfully,  
J. G. JONES,  
49 Helmings Drive, Danehurst,  
Heathrow, Wolverhampton.  
September 7.

## Displays of grief

From Mr A. Murray

Sir, The debate about emotion at funerals may draw ballast from its antiquity.

In rural parts of medieval Italy it was normal for a widow to shriek in public, dishevel her hair and tear her clothes after her husband's death; so normal, in fact, that the husband's kinsmen might tear her hair and clothes for her if they thought her insufficiently moved.

Townsmen would-be heirs to the Roman Stoics, strongly disapproved. They passed laws to stop such conduct among their citizens, who could receive a substantial fine "for showing excessive grief" in public. To meet the demands of mourning, town law developed a code to prescribe which parts of clothing should be worn black to mourn this or that dead relation: for a widow, all, and so on down to a simple black emblem. Our custom of wearing a black tie descends from this.

So long-lasting a debate is most unlikely to end in our generation.

Yours faithfully,  
ALEXANDER MURRAY  
(Tutor in Medieval History),  
University College, Oxford.  
September 7.

## Staff college cost

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGroarty

Sir, Brigadier Peter Collins (letter, August 27) points to the proposed waste of "the best part of £500 million" on the proposed Joint Services Staff College.

Alternative schemes for utilising the extensive Army Staff College site at Camberley, or the naval hall buildings at Greenwich, were each to have cost under £15 million. By including junior command as well as staff training in the remit of the proposed tri-service college, the larger site of Camberley was given the advantage over Greenwich.

It was later found that it would cost over three times that sum to develop Camberley. A hurried decision was taken to build a college near Swindon alongside the Royal Military College of Science.

Millions of pounds are going down the drain to house the staff colleges for the time being at Bracknell on land which could by now have been sold most profitably had the correct decision been taken to back the naval plan and utilise Greenwich as a single defence staff college.

Yours truly,  
IAN McGROARTY,  
Hill House, High Street,  
Lewes, East Sussex, BN1 1JL.

Letters may be faxed to  
0171-782-5046  
e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

## Devolution 'will lead to acrimony'

From Lord Beloff

Sir, As Scots face their referendum it is worth recalling the circumstances that brought about the union of the Parliaments. It was sought by the Scots in order to obtain entry into the rapidly growing English commercial empire from which they were excluded by protectionist legislation. It was accepted by the English as a political safeguard amid apprehensions of a disputed succession to the Crown.

Is it not somewhat anomalous that they have no such power in relation to their own grandchildren unless, which would be unthinkable, they should also be made wards of court?

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Yours faithfully,  
J. G. JONES,  
49 Helmings Drive, Danehurst,  
Heathrow, Wolverhampton.  
September 7.

## Landmine loophole

From General Sir Hugh Beach

Sir, Once again, Mother Teresa is taken to task for her views on abortion and birth control ("Press casts doubts over legend of Mother Teresa", September 8).

Mother Teresa was, indeed, opposed to abortion — unsurprisingly, in view of her respect for unwanted human beings of all ages. She was not, however, opposed to each and every form of family planning.

On the contrary, natural family planning — success rates for which are now very high — was actively supported by Mother Teresa as an alternative both to contraception and to abortion.

Yours sincerely,  
HELEN WATT  
(Research fellow),  
The Linacre Centre (for  
health care ethics),  
60 Grove End Road, NW8.  
September 8.

## Landmine loophole

From Dr Helen Watt

Sir, Earlier this year my wife and I were privileged to spend a morning at the orphanage in Calcutta run by Mother Teresa: seeing nearly three hundred abandoned babies nourished and cared for by the dedicated nuns was an almost unbearable moving experience.

In the light of the sad death of Diana, Princess of Wales, it is relevant that we were moved even more by a well-to-do French lady sitting in the corner of one of the wards nursing two tiny babies. She told us that she came every year for two or three weeks to help. When I asked her if she had any qualifications, she replied: "Monsieur, you do not require qualifications to give a little love."

Yours faithfully,  
BRINSLEY BLACK,  
17 Lansdowne Walk, W1.  
brinsleyblack@compuserve.com  
September 7.

## Landmine loophole

From General Sir Hugh Beach

Sir, You report today that the Americans are belatedly expressing support for a treaty banning anti-personnel landmines, despite Washington's insistence that they should be allowed to continue using these mines to defend South Korea as long as they have any number of countries could follow.

This obstacle bears out the worst fears of Diana, Princess of Wales, and her co-signatories of the letter to you of September 3, pointing out that any such exception would create a fatal loophole through which any number of countries could follow.

On military grounds alone, the American position is misguided. If any North Korean assault were armour-led then it would be accompanied by mechanised mine-clearing devices (flails, rollers, ploughs or explosives) against which anti-personnel mines have no effect.

If, in more difficult terrain, they launched a predominantly dismounted assault, then their vast numbers would allow them to use "human-wave" tactics (as the Chinese did in the same theatre in the 1950s) in which

millions of pounds are going down the drain to house the staff colleges for the time being at Bracknell on land which could by now have been sold most profitably had the correct decision been taken to back the naval plan and utilise Greenwich as a single defence staff college.

These laws were conceived and carefully drafted by doctors, were upheld by the US Supreme Court in 1977 and in 1985 were still valid in 1993.

These US laws were used as models for legislation in Alberta, Denmark and Switzerland (1928), Germany (1933), Norway and Sweden (1934) and Finland (1935).

Yours faithfully,  
JEREMY HUGH BARON,  
21c Randolph Crescent, W9.  
jeremyhughbaron@aol.com  
September 8.

## Forced sterilisation

From Dr J. H. Baron

Sir, Forced sterilisation (article, August 29) did not start only "after the First World War", was neither social democratic nor Nazi in origin, and did





# Your team can win you £1,000 in a month

## The story so far...

So I haven't won the first monthly prize of £1,000 then. Where did I go wrong? Well, it would have helped if you hadn't picked Patrick Blondel of Sheffield Wednesday as one of your full backs. He managed the biggest minus score in August. For that same money, you could have got Celestine Babayaro of Chelsea.

But he's injured. He hasn't played a single game. Exactly — but he didn't score any minus points either.

For £4 million you could have bought Dennis Irwin, and scored nineteen. Then there's Dan Petrescu of Chelsea. He's a full back, but Rudi Gullit has been playing him in midfield — and he's always known where the goal is.

But I've already spent my £35 million. What can I do? Enter the transfer market — the true test of a manager.

Are we talking secret meetings at motorway service stations? Brown envelopes? Negotiations with agents at West London drinking clubs?

Nothing so dramatic. You telephone the transfer number and follow the instructions: just tap in the five-digit codes of the players you're transferring in and out. How many players can I transfer at one go?

Up to four per call, but you can make as many calls as you like. And you can make up to six transfers during the season. Some of the more successful competitors transfer players with specific matches in mind.

Who are the players I should be looking at, then?

It all depends on your budget, and don't forget that you can't have more than two players from any one team. So buying the entire Manchester United first eleven is out of the question?

You couldn't afford them anyway. But if you bought one, Peter Schmeichel has scored more points than any other player. Most of the first month's winners have bought him, even if he wasn't in their starting team.

You mean some people have been in the transfer market already? We're only in September.

He who hesitates is lost.

Where do I look for bargains?

How about Scotland? Gilles Rousset has been a bit of a snip at £1.5 million for eleven points so far.

Gilles who?

Rousset. The Hearts goalkeeper. Never heard of him.

Funny, he said the same about you. The talent's there if you know where to look. Scouting — the mark of a manager.

I thought that was the transfer market! And I don't fancy rainy afternoons on the touchline.

Not necessary. Consult the player lists in The Times every Tuesday. Today, in fact.

Successful entrants to Interactive Team Football have won their August monthly prizes. Just one month's efforts can win you £1,000

TODAY we announce the first monthly winners of the Times Interactive Team Football (ITF) leagues. In addition to the main ITF League, there are three mini-leagues running concurrently: a Women's League, the Mitre Students League and the Dairy Crest Youth League for under-18s. Players too have entered teams: Neil Redfearn, the Barnsley captain, has celebrated his club's elevation to the FA Carding Premiership by heading the players' section.

Alison Hembrow, a history teacher at Christ College in Powys, the August winner of the Women's League, recognised the value of an active transfer policy. "I've kept the defence steady," she said. "I've made a lot of transfers in the first month and brought players in for individual matches." She said, "I went for good value, relatively cheap midfielders, and chopped around a bit." It paid off for her team, The Breconians, despite the postponement of the Liverpool v Newcastle match, in anticipation of which she had made a number of transfers.

Nick Wheatley, whose cryptically-named outfit HDG Is A Sad Waster, was the August award in the Mitre Students' League, also made changes to good effect. "The way Manchester United defended at Tottenham changed my mind about Schmeichel and Pallister," he said.



LineOne

A Chelsea supporter, he begins a geography course at University College London in two weeks, and is one of a number of entrants who included Marco Negri of Glasgow Rangers in their line-ups. Rangers will score a lot of goals, and Negri will probably score most of them," he said.

The three mini-league winners each received signed Mitre footballs, a Mitre sports bag and a pair of tickets to a Premiership match.

Words: Nick Szczepanik

## Fantasy team from Fife wins its manager £1,000

THE OVERALL winner of the ITF August monthly prize is Gordon Davidson, from Earlsferry in Fife, who receives £1,000, a Mitre football signed by Stuart Pearce, a Mitre sports bag and a pair of tickets to a premier league game of his choice.

He entered his team, built around solid defensive performers like Gary Pallister, through the Internet.

He is pictured (right) receiving his prizes from John Beresford, the Newcastle United full back, at St James' Park last week.



### ITF LEAGUE

1	August in the Bag	Gordon Davidson	186
2	Goulou Goulou	Mukund	182
3	Kittens	Johnny Tiger	182
4	UK All Stars II	Dave D. Brave	174
5	Ca	Mr D Edbrooke Stainer	171
6	Aug I	D Ingham	166
7	Don 2	D Shuter	162
8	Meat Priazzo FC	Mick The Thick	162
9	Jb4	Mr M Jones	161
10	Teddybears Pinknicks	Mrs Sheila Bolland	159
11	Alyssas Aces	Mr I Smith	159
12	Legion	J W Goody	158
13	West Kilbride Amateurs	Archie Knox's Anorak	157
14	Keri Ann Kickers 2	P Wheatley	157
15	Nadar	A Neviazski	156
16	Yogi's	Yogi Bear	156
17	Goose 4	S Legg	156
18	Keith 3	K Parhail	155
19	Jg4	J W Goody	155
20	Enid 4	J Heather	154
21	Ga	Mr D Edbrooke Stainer	154
22	United	G Koerner	154
23	Huns	Attila	153
24	Boys Boys	R Calder	153
25	Pegasus And Unicorns	V Cox	152
26	Sits as a Parrot	Bruce Trudgill	151
27	A7	Mr Ta Richards	151
28	Wesleton United F.C.	Peter McDermid	150
29	Buridan's Ass	Cavil Culfaz	149
30	SI 1	S Latham	149
31	Chugging Gnash	Dominic Nash	148
32	Goose 5	S Legg	148
33	Corn On The Cob	Mr R Cobbold	148
34	H D G Is A Sad Waster	N Wheatley	146
35	Danny Boys Seven	Stephen Shaw	146
36	Cymru Am Byth 12	H Pritchard	145
37	Dirty Dozen	Captain Logan	145
38	Oh No Juninho	Mr I Smith	145
39	J	L Clark	145
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41	Gohil Brothers 26	Mr Rajesh Gohil	144
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44	Ruperto's	Rupert Bear	143
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47	Back To Front	S Hill	142
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### WOMEN'S LEAGUE

1	A Hembrow	The Breconians I	129
2	J Barling	Pass	128
3	E Stoate	United Stoates	124
4	L Mack	Legrens Lads	124
5	J Bilen	Jo's Sweeties	122
6	H Irvine	He's Belles	122
7	C Henville	The Chippendales	122
8	K Nicol	Colchester Jags 3	121
9	B Fariborz	St Rovers I	120
10	I Parade	Paradoes Prowler	118
11	C Cooke	Cookies	118
12	J Hall	Jay Birds	117
13	M Burling	Born To Win XI	115
14	L Fraser	Linda's Lagers	115
15	D Hull	Debbie's Dream	114
16	EE Hughes	Putters Town	114
17	L Birchfield	Hello T Brooking	114
18	L Hall	Louise's	114
19	J Davies	Warlocks	114
20	L Peebles	Thornaby XI	113

### STUDENTS' LEAGUE

1	N Wheatley	H D G Is A Sad Waster	146
2	P Henson	Hensonhammers	130
3	N Wheatley	Who Has My Ostrich	127
4	B Cuttle	Cuttle's Fish	126
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6	I McGill	The White Helmets	123
7	R Gilpin	Inter Pubs&clubs	122
8	V Krishna	Call Me Rodney	122
9	N Lamb	Perfecto FC	121
10	D Harber	Supersonic City 2	121
11	Z Tezer	Ziggy Greaves XI	121
12	G Gillingswater	Becks Blokes	120
13	R Penruick	Numero Uno FC	120
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15	M Adams	Machismo FC	119
16	P Burford	Sonic 4	119
17	S Barker	Ricchio Rovers	117
18	S Bell	Eddie Wednesday	117
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2	S Wilson	Samsuperselect	130
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6	D John	The Dream Team	125
7	L Nook	Liams Reds	125
8	J Green	Rugrats	125
9	S Saujanii	Wilson Wanderers	120
10	B Wilson	Hurricanes	119
11	K McClymont	Hardgate Hammers	119
12	A Corbett	Ashleigh XI	118
13	O Prescott	Ollie's Acrobats	118
14	T Wells	Tom's Tigers	117
15	R Davidson	6th Kirke	117
16	A Gills	League Surfers	117
17	T Langran	no team name	116
18	G Tindall	Ski All Bran	115
19	G Cohen	Gregorians FC	115

To enter ITF, ring 0891 405 011

Successful entrants to Interactive Team Football have won their August monthly prizes. Just one month's efforts can win you £1,000

### HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS

All 1997-8 matches in the FA Carding Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

#### POINTS AWARDED

Goalkeeper	Keeps clean sheet (per half)\*	+3 points



</

# Your list of players and a guide to the top scorers

Dream on... here are the players you would choose if you had unlimited resources and no restrictions



If an ITF team based on the August ratings could be formed regardless of price and club affiliation, it would be dominated, as one might expect, by players from Manchester United. In front of goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, the top points-scorer in ITF, three of the top four defenders are his Old Trafford team-mates: Dennis Irwin, Gary Pallister and Henning Berg. The recent signing from Blackburn Rovers.

Chelsea's Dan Petrescu is the exception to the red rule, but is he truly a full-back? As teams switch formation back and forth from the trendy 3-5-2 to the tried and trusted 4-4-2, wing-backs like Petrescu and Gary Kelly of Leeds United find themselves playing in midfield. In midfield, it is a similar

story: Nicky Butt, Roy Keane and David Beckham have outscored all their rivals in August. However, Benito Carbone, classed as a midfield player although he has been playing further forward for Sheffield Wednesday, would have come out ahead of all three had he not lost three points for his dismissal in the Blackburn-Sheffield Wednesday match, in which he scored both of his side's goals in a 7-2 defeat.

Only in the striking department have Manchester United lost out. Teddy Sheringham, with ten ITF points so far, is some way behind the leading forward, Chris Sutton (29), whose return to form has coincided with the resurgence of Blackburn Rovers, and Dennis Bergkamp of Arsenal (24), scorer of a hat-trick (worth a bonus of ten points) against Leicester City at Filbert Street.

Marco Negri, who has started the season in prolific form for Glasgow Rangers, and Dion Dublin of Coventry City, another hat-trick man on the season's opening day against Chelsea, have each scored 22 points and are hovering just outside the first team.

Two managers have equal claim to being in charge of the squad: Alex Ferguson of Manchester United, and Roy Hodgson of Blackburn Rovers. Hodgson is more than



TOP TEAM

Player	Team	Cost (£m)	Week Total
Peter Schmeichel	Man Utd	0.00	0
Dan Petrescu	Chelsea	5.00	18
Dennis Irwin	Man Utd	0.00	5
Henning Berg	Man Utd	0.00	12
Gary Pallister	Man Utd	0.00	12
Nicky Butt	Man Utd	0.00	12
Roy Keane	Man Utd	0.00	12
David Beckham	Sheffield Wed	0.00	12
Chris Sutton	Blackburn	0.00	12
Dennis Bergkamp	Arsenal	0.00	12
Roy Hodgson	Blackburn	0.00	12

entitled to the nod; after all, in the real world, his team sits on top of the FA Carling Premiership, having scored 11 goals to Manchester United's eight.

A little blue-and-white balance on an otherwise somewhat red-heavy team might not go amiss.



Carbone, above left, and Butt are both high points-scorers in ITF so far this season

in the red rule.

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## THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS AT BRIGHTON

# Extension of rights sought for employees

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

UNION leaders yesterday demanded an extension of key employment rights to protect employees from the day they start work.

Other extensions to union powers sought by the TUC include recognition of unions where 50 per cent plus one of employees in a workplace demand it and rights at work to apply to all staff regardless of the number of hours worked or form of contract.

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB, and Bill Morris, leader of the T&G, led the call for an end to the requirement that employees should have worked for two years before they are able to make a claim for unfair dismissal or be entitled to redundancy payments. The qualification period will be an important part of the Govern-

ment's White Paper on fairness at work to be published next year.

At present employees have a number of rights from the first day of employment, such as protection from discrimination on the grounds of race or gender. But the lack of rights over dismissal claims or severance pay until employees have been on the staff for two years has led to many sackings just before the qualifying period, the TUC claims.

Mr Edmonds said: "To dismiss people unfairly is just as wrong whether it happens after two days, or after two months or after two years."

John Monks, General Secretary of the TUC, said on the eve of the Congress that he wanted to see what the White Paper proposed before setting out qualification periods. But both Mr Edmonds and Mr Morris were yesterday adamant that there should be no compromise between the two-year requirement and the demand for day-one rights.

The TUC's official request to the Government on qualification for rights seeks to embrace both positions. It calls for "all rights at work [to] apply to all employees regardless of hours worked, length of service or the form of contracts".

In a strong attack on the Government, Mr Edmonds said: "Don't politicians understand that nowadays some employers are so bloody-minded that if people get employment rights after one year, we would see the introduction of 11-month contracts?

And if the waiting period goes down to six months, we would find people employed on contracts cut down to 25 weeks."

Mr Morris said: "Access to justice should not depend on the length of your service or the numbers you work with. An injustice is an injustice whether it's done on day one or day 1,001." The leader of the T&G urged the extension of employment rights to all workers, including contract and temporary staff, seasonal employees and casual workers.

"Many young workers have never even heard of trade unions, let alone been asked to join one."

— John Edmonds, the general secretary of the GMB, on Labour's plans to maintain a flexible labour market.

"When I hear the Labour Government using Tory phrases, I shiver a little."

— Tony Burke, the deputy general secretary of the GPMU, and head of the TUC's new unionism task force.

"Fear and insecurity have been replaced by hope and a boost for the morale of ordinary people. Even West Ham United are playing well."

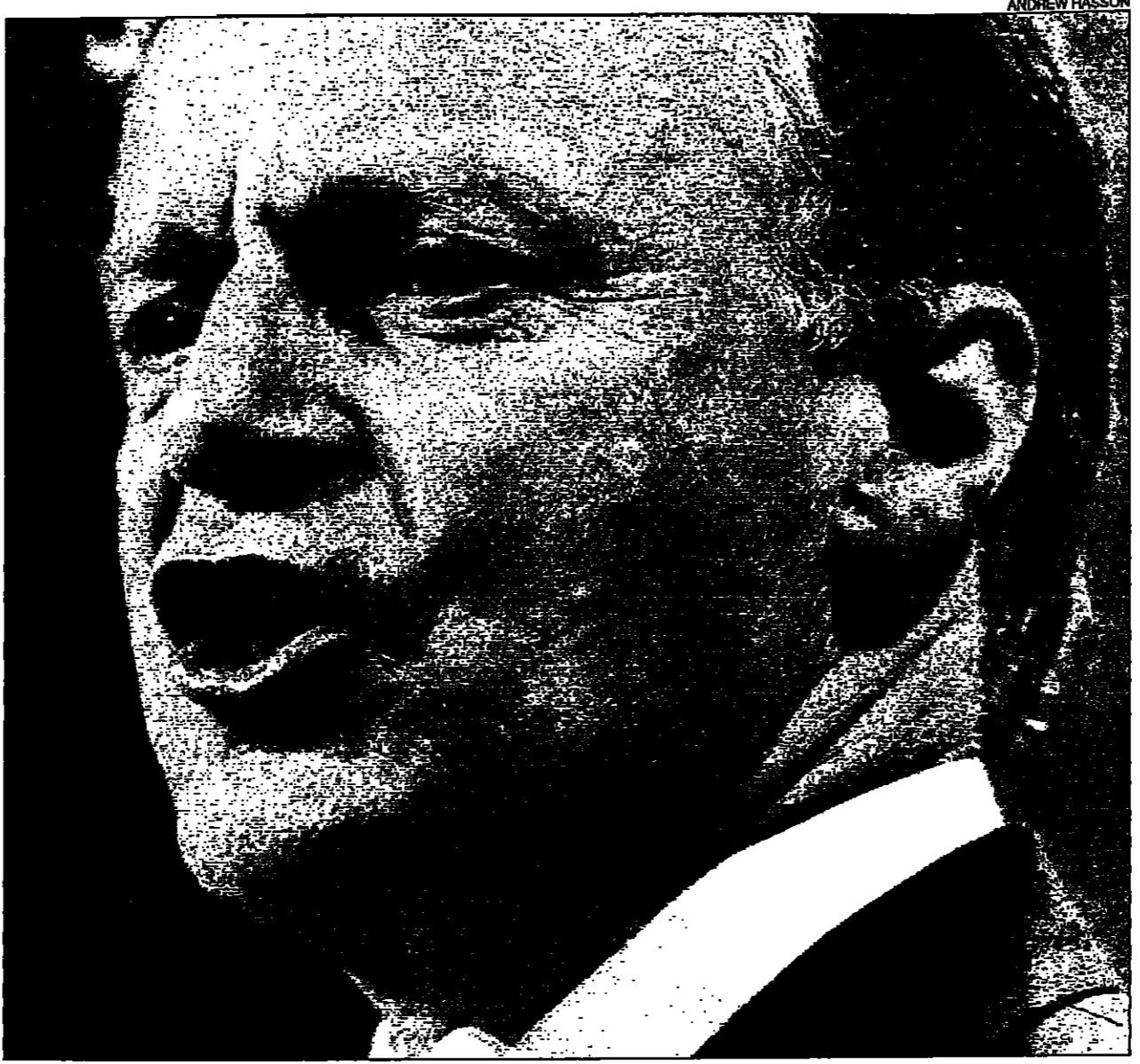
— Tony Duggins, the President of the TUC, on the election of the Labour Government.

"Don't dream too much, face reality."

— John Monks, General Secretary of the TUC, to a call from CWU representative Alastair Eldred for a more radical agenda.

"You need the patience of Job, the wisdom of Solomon and a bladder able to withstand three-and-a-quarter hours without relief, morning and afternoon."

— Jimmy Knapp, the leader of the RMT, on the requirements for a Congress president.



John Monks urges the TUC to join in dialogue with the Government and business on raising the UK's competitiveness

## Monks tells unions to 'seize the moment' and modernise

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

JOHN MONKS, TUC General Secretary, urged Britain's unions yesterday to "seize the moment" of Labour's rise to power and modernise as part of a movement by the Government, employers and unions towards a new industrial partnership.

In his keynote speech at the opening of the TUC's annual conference in Brighton, Mr Monks said unions now stood ready to join a new national dialogue with the Government and business on how to improve the UK's competitiveness and how to make Europe

work best for Britain. He urged Tony Blair, who will address the TUC conference today, to help to push Britain towards a new industrial deal, drawing on his success in modernising the Labour Party.

"Help to generate the momentum for the new settlement. If anyone in the UK knows the potential of breaking from past traditions and grasping the new, do it."

He called on Adair Turner, the CBI Director-General, who will speak to the conference tomorrow, to accept that bad employers undermined

good ones: "Recognise that competitiveness comes from skilled and loyal staff enjoying both good conditions and the trust of their employers."

But he said the unions had to change too — to find for themselves a new and constructive place in Mr Blair's new Britain. "Not just what we'd like to get, but where we can play a part. Not just what we want to see — but what we plan to do. And not just what we want others to give — but how we ourselves can contribute. Congress, seize the moment."

Mr Monks welcomed what the new Government had already achieved, including signing the EU social chapter, establishing the Low Pay Commission to recommend a national minimum wage, promising new laws to give unions legal recognition rights and ending the ban on unions at GCHQ.

But he emphasised the clear differences between the unions and a Labour government, with the Government pledged to govern in the interest of the whole country. He rejected those eager to seize on splits and divisions between the unions and Labour.

If the TUC and the Government were always in agreement, it would only prove that neither of us was doing our job properly."

But while he supported close involvement by employers in a new national dialogue, he sharply criticised some forms of work flexibility embraced by certain companies. Companies needed to be flexible. But the hire and fire culture was not flexibility, just exploitation.

He said: "Employers might want flexible workers. But people at work today need flexible employers. Not the hire and fire, take it or leave it brigade, but the ones who see that choices must be a two-way street, worked out together."

John Lloyd, page 18  
Leading article, page 19

## Drive to revive membership

By OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE TUC set out an action plan yesterday to reverse its declining membership. Tony Duggins, the President, said the New Unionism recruitment drive was "about our relevance, our credibility and our future".

The union movement will launch a twin-track campaign to build membership where unions are already active and to spark interest in those areas where jobs are growing but union membership is non-existent. The fight for new members, which the TUC said needs "urgent action", will be

backed by an academy to teach union organisation skills. The academy, into which the TUC is pumping £1 million, will train young union members to be organisers and will launch in the new year.

Trade union membership has fallen from half of the workforce in 1979 to just under a third now. Many workers in new industries ignore unions largely because there is no tradition and they are not approached to join. According to our own report, *Testament of Youth*, many young workers have never even heard of trade unions. Let alone been asked to join one."

have not done so because there is no presence at their workplace. The TUC now has 6.9 million members.

Tony Burke, deputy general secretary of the Graphical Paper and Media Union and head of the New Unionism Task Group, said that young workers would be a key recruitment target. "In the UK only one in five under-25s are a union member ...

According to our own report, *Testament of Youth*, many young workers have never even heard of trade unions. Let alone been asked to join one."

He said: "Employers might want flexible workers. But people at work today need flexible employers. Not the hire and fire, take it or leave it brigade, but the ones who see that choices must be a two-way street, worked out together."

John Lloyd, page 18  
Leading article, page 19

## TOURIST RATES

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
Buy	Sells	Buy	Sells
Australia \$ ....	2.27	2.09	206.53
Austria Sch ...	21.13	19.47	57.28
Belgium Fr ...	62.24	57.28	3.118
Canada \$ ....	2.315	2.127	2.64
Cyprus Cyp ...	0.888	0.818	12.37
Denmark Kr ...	11.48	10.59	11.43
Finland Mkk ...	9.12	8.37	8.14
France Fr ...	10.09	9.31	7.18
Germany Dm ...	3.02	2.78	13.09
Greece Dr ...	475	436	2.50
Hong Kong \$ ...	13.09	11.89	277705
Iceland ...	128	103	1.69
Ireland Pt ...	1.12	1.03	1.03
Israel Shk ...	5.89	5.24	1.548
Italy Lira ...	2961	2724	257827

Bank rates for small denominations. Rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates at yesterday's close.

## THE TIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

## CompuServe sold in \$1.2bn deal

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

WORLDCOM, the American long-distance phone company, has acquired CompuServe Corporation, the flagging "online" company, for \$1.2 billion (about £759 million).

As part of the agreement, Worldcom will hand over CompuServe's 2.6 million subscribers worldwide to America Online (AOL) in exchange for AOL's network services subsidiary, ANS Communications. Worldcom will also pay \$175 million in cash to AOL.

The deal comes after Worldcom's purchase of H&R Block's 80 per cent stake in CompuServe. While handing subscribers over to AOL, Worldcom will keep CompuServe's high-speed tele-

communications lines and Internet "gateways", enabling the former to enhance the size and reach of Uninet Technologies, its Internet services unit.

AOL, whose president is Steve Case, has been promised access to an additional 100,000 Uninet modems that would help to prevent network "traffic jams" as AOL expands.

This should ensure that AOL is not embarrassed again as it was earlier this year, when shortly after its introduction of flat-rate monthly pricing, it was forced to cede credits to enraged customers unable to connect to the dial-up service.

By catching CompuServe's subscribers in its corporate driftnet, AOL will surge still

further ahead of its rivals in major online services. According to figures published in June by *Electronic Information Report*, a trade newsletter, AOL already has 8.6 million subscribers. Its nearest rival, the Microsoft Network, is now dwarfed with a mere 2.3 million.

There is also a geographical dimension to AOL's consolidation. CompuServe, traditionally strong in Europe, has 850,000 European subscribers, which would now make AOL the largest online service in Europe. AOL Europe, a joint venture with Bertelsmann, the German publishing company, already has 650,000 subscribers.



Steve Case hopes to prevent further network "traffic jams"

## Park Food names chief

PARK FOOD GROUP, the hamper supplier and marketing services company, yesterday announced that Alastair Kerr, former chief executive of Virgin Retail Europe, has joined it as chief executive (Sarah Cunningham, writes).

The move comes after a decision to split the roles of chairman and managing director held by Peter Johnson, owner of 70 per cent of the company.

There has been pressure from institutional shareholders for the appointment of an outside executive to address the company's problems.

Profits have fallen sharply to £9.6 million, from £13.7 million two years ago, and the shares, up 1p at 54.5p yesterday, have fallen from a high of 140p in 1995.

Mr Johnson, who also chairs Everton Football Club and who stepped down as chairman of Nightfreight, the parcels group, in June, will remain executive chairman of Park Food. Mr Kerr said he had been assured that he would be able to run the company as a full chief executive, in spite of Mr Johnson's controlling stake. He is to present a strategic review to the board.

## Acquisitions give a boost to Polypipe

BY ADAM JONES

POLYPipe, the plastic building materials manufacturer, increased annual profits 15.1 per cent after a flurry of small acquisitions in the year.

The group also announced yesterday that Mike Hardy, its production director, has been made managing director. Pre-tax profits for the year to June 30 stood at £32.8 million on turnover of £231.7 million. Sales of pipes and fittings, boosted by the purchase of Norflex and B&H, rose from £125.8 million to £136.6 million.

Sales of bathroom and kitchen accessories rose from £20.5 million to £30.9 million. Polypipe bought Midland Stom last October, adding Celmac, the toilet seat maker, in May 1997. Other plastic products, including window products, accounted for £64.2 million in sales (£62.4 million). The market for windows was subdued in the first few months before picking up again in May. Mr Hardy blamed a fall in local authority spending and pre-election uncertainty for the lull.

A final dividend of 2.41p (2.14p), due on November 26, makes 3.33p (2.97p).

W

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Merrill Lynch soars to record \$1.55bn

MERRILL LYNCH Europe, the investment bank based in London, more than doubled its half-year pre-tax profits, to £158 million, helping the earnings of its parent, Merrill Lynch, to reach a record \$1.55 billion (£980 million). It put the growth down to a combination of the integration of Smith New Court, the broker, and the strength of the European capital markets.

Christopher Reeve, chairman of Merrill Lynch Europe, said that the group was able to marry Smith's UK equity business to the old Merrill operations, which were strong in continental Europe and are the leading issuer of debt securities in the world. He added: "As a result of the acquisition of Smith we have been able to attract a number of high-quality corporate financiers and this has given us a much more rounded business." The London operation has also been bolstered by an injection of £188 million of extra capital from its US parent during the first half of the year.

### Pound hits Haggas

JOHN HAGGAS, the spinner of wool and synthetic yarn, said sterling's strength had caused the UK market to be flooded with cheap imports and was eroding the company's competitive edge overseas. Haggas, which normally generates 60 per cent of its sales from overseas, said that it was accepting lower margins to retain existing customers in the hope that sterling would subside. Pre-tax profits fell to £2.22 million (£2.7 million) in the year to June 30. Earnings per share fell 7p (8.4p). A 3p final dividend, due on November 28, makes 4.5p (same).

### Biomedix losses deepen

KS BIOMEDIX, the biotech company specialising in developing antibodies, says that it intends to sell the rights to its arthritis drugs next summer, if they pass the half-way Phase II tests. The company is working on what it hopes will be the first medicine to reverse the advance of arthritis, but it says that it cannot afford the costs of further tests. Its pre-tax losses deepened to an expected £847,000 (£18,000) in the year to May 31, leaving it with £2.9 million in the bank, which it expects to last for another three years. The shares held at 16.2p.

### Brammer lifts payout

BRAMMER, the European industrial services group, yesterday reported a 10 per cent rise, from £1.8 million to £1.4 million, in pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30, on turnover of £112 million, up 8.9 per cent from £103 million. Earnings per share were 21p, up 13.5 per cent from 18.5p. An interim dividend of 5.6p (5.25p) will be paid on November 7. The company said that its profits had been hit by the strength of sterling and the subdued UK market, but that its performance in mainland Europe was improving.

### Dewhirst 28% ahead

DEWHIRST, the Marks & Spencer clothing supplier, lifted its pre-tax profits 28 per cent, from £11 million to £14 million, in the 26 weeks to July 18, on sales of £177 million, up 20 per cent from £147 million. Earnings per share were 7.4p, up 31 per cent from 5.6p. An interim dividend of

**W**hat is the function of the Stock Exchange? To provide a trading floor? Not for at least a decade. To regulate the financial markets? No, that is the role of the SIB, the Bank of England and the self-regulatory organisations and will soon be the job of the super-SIB. So does the exchange catch inside traders? Well, it investigates them and then passes the case on to the Department of Trade and Industry to prosecute. And then the DTI appears to decide it is impossible to prosecute that case. Unfortunately the DTI investigators have to prove a *mens rea*, in that the person dealing not only was in possession of inside information but also dealt in the shares because he or she had the inside information. And you can count on the fingers of a mitten how often these cases can be tried successfully in any given year.

So this leaves the other function of the Stock Exchange — to maintain an orderly market. Well, yesterday it failed to do that in British Energy. The final instalment to be paid on the nuclear electricity company's shares is due next Monday and, as has happened with all privatisations, the market adjusted the price to have dual quotes a week before the event. Only the exchange failed to take account of this, so instead of there being two pages of market-making quotes, there was only one. The result — confusion.

mispricing and anger. The action of the exchange to suspend British Energy shares and obliterate all trace of trading for most of yesterday morning, it is noted, if the exchange was not warned. A similar problem occurred when the final payment was due on Railtrack shares earlier this year.

British Energy is expected to make a formal complaint about the Stock Exchange's handling of the situation tomorrow. This could open up a can of worms, namely whether the exchange needs to exist in the form that it does. For 200 years the London Stock Exchange has been a focus of trading activity in a financial centre that the envy of the world. Yesterday's figures from Merrill Lynch Europe, after a few weeks from those of SBC Warburg, show that London-based financial companies are the equal of anybody — even if they are rarely British owned. But electronic markets have shown that you do not need a trading floor for most trading, and the interlinking of many markets often makes it irrelevant whether a share is traded in London, New York or Timbuktu. Regulators have realised that much trading between large companies is on a

*caveat emptor* basis and constrain themselves to making sure the dealers are properly trained, the firms are properly capitalised and the small investor is not ripped off. The exchange's role in this is to make sure the systems exist to enable this trading to take place efficiently. Yesterday it did not. And if this happens on a regular basis the traders will find someone else to provide the facility and the exchange will become redundant.

### Softly, softly for the economy

**F**ears that the enduring strength of sterling would spell disaster for the manufacturing sector have dominated the economic debate for most of this year. The contrast between the booming high street and weak manufacturing output has revived memories of the "dual economy" that bedevilled Brit-

ain's economic performance throughout the 1980s. Pessimists have even begun muttering that the combination of rising interest rates and strong sterling could tip the whole economy into recession next year.

But the manufacturing sector has so far proved more resilient than the doomsday merchants and even many industrialists have expected. Yesterday's manufacturing output figures again surprised on the upside, with manufacturing output rising at a monthly rate of 0.4 per cent and pushing the annual rate of increase to 1.6 per cent. Some of the increase simply derives from a series of back revisions to the data. But the Office for National Statistics hinted at signs of an underlying improvement, doubling its estimate of the trend in growth for manufacturing output from 1 to 2 per cent.

Nor was the improvement confined to one of the more peripheral sectors of the economy. The highly

economy but also because it is proving far more competitive than when faced with similar problems in the past. If consumer spending — which has been at the heart of the Bank's obsession with overheating — now also continues to ease gently, the economy might yet escape with the fabled "soft landing".

### Beckett's law needs to get tough at DTI

**T**here certainly is a new sheriff in town, down at the DTI. Since Margaret Beckett rode into the Victoria Street headquarters, the place has been a hive of activity. Bass's purchase of Carlsberg Tetley and the London Clubs bid for Capital Corporation have been blocked. The merger of Stena and P&O is likely to be given the green light, with conditions, and, miracle of miracles, the report following the DTI investigation into Guinness is finally going to be published, only 12 years after the Distillers bid that prompted the inquiry.

As Mrs Beckett is in the spirit of cleaning out the pending tray she inherited from Ian Lang, she might think about putting a fire

under investigators in four other DTI inquiries. The investigation into Wace, the pre-press group, has been going on for five-and-a-half years, and nobody can work out what it is about. The Mirror Group inquiry was held up by the criminal trials and is now moving forward four years and three months after it was launched. Investigators have been looking at the finance company Chancery for four years and hotels group Queens Moat House for nearly as long.

These investigations are expensive, slow and largely fruitless. Rarely do they expose fraud and, if they don't, the main sanction is to try to have the directors of the companies disqualified as directors, a process that is also expensive and slow. Sheriff Beckett should turn her attention to how the DTI might become more effective in rooting out corporate misdemeanours.

### Family fortunes

I AM indebted to Professor Sue Birley of Imperial College, who, at the behest of Grant Thornton, the accountants, studied family businesses and found that most are "highly professional and commercially aware". Among her conclusions are that most families who run businesses disagreed with the idea that family members should automatically be entitled to a job in the firm. Did she ask Stephen and Andy Rubin at Pentland?

## Fairey puts expansion on hold

By JENNIFER HANAWALD

**F**AIERY GROUP, the industrial electronics and engineering company that has grown steadily through acquisitions over the past two years, yesterday appeared to rule out further purchases.

John Poulter, chief executive, said: "We are in a natural period of consolidation for the acquisitions we made in the first half of 1997." But he added that in the longer term the company would "continue to develop in sensible ways to generate profit and shareholder value".

Fairey lifted pre-tax profits to £23.96 million (£21.33 million) in the six months to June 30, despite the impact of currency fluctuations, which hit profits by £1.4 million. Sales rose to £153.7 million (£118.4 million). Earnings rose 7 per cent to 16.5p a share and the interim dividend is 3.05p (2.85p).

Sales in the electronics sector were up 47 per cent at £15.1 million including acquisitions.

The electrical power division's sales were down 22 per cent at £8.2 million. Sales in aerospace and filtration rose 1 per cent and 3 per cent respectively.

## Blue Circle plays down fears over Malaysia growth

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

**B**LUICIRCLE Industries, the cement group, yesterday sought to play down worries about growth prospects in Malaysia, one of its main markets, and said it was still looking for acquisition opportunities in the Far East.

Concern about the possible impact on the company of the postponement of several big building projects in Malaysia overshadowed its interim results announcement and helped to send its shares 7p lower, to 35p.

Among the projects that the Malaysian Government said it would postpone last week, after a run on the currency and a stock market plunge, are the controversial \$6.2 billion (£3.9 million) Bakun hydro-electric dam in the Borneo jungle, a huge highway and what would have been the world's longest building.

Keith Orrell-Jones, chief executive, said he thought that a recession in Malaysia was unlikely, but he does see a slowdown in the rate of growth. He added: "It would have to be a dramatic change in growth to impact cement

demand." The company, chaired by Lord Tugendhat, made an operating profit of £16.7 million in Malaysia and Singapore in the first half, down 6.2 per cent, while turnover was up 14.6 per cent, to £94.4 million. The discrepancy arose from having to import cement at low margins. It expects to see a dramatic improvement in margins after it opens a new plant in Malaysia next week.

The company, which bought the St Mary's Cement Corporation in Canada for £194 million earlier this year,

said it was still keen to make acquisitions. Its gearing is at 18 per cent and could be raised to 45 per cent with £300 million of bank borrowings. It is keen on buying building materials companies in the Far East and South America.

The company made a pre-tax profit of £116.9 million in the six months to June 30, from £16.3 a year earlier, after taking an exceptional provision of £25 million to cover the cost of an agreement with UK employees reached in May. The provision covers redundancy costs across Blue Circle Cement UK's operations and asset write-offs associated with works upgrades.

The group's heating division saw its operating profit increase 18 per cent, to £20.9 million, while the bathrooms division — where it owns Armitage Shanks and Italy's Ceramic Dolomite — saw a drop in operating profit of 10 per cent, to £11.5 million, hit by a marked slowdown in the Italian market. A 4.65p (4.25p) deemed Foreign Income dividend will be paid on November 24.

Tempus, page 28

## Scottish Media plans digital TV service

By RAYMOND SNODDY  
MEDIA EDITOR

**S**cottish Media, whose interests include Scottish Television, has decided to launch its own Tarian Television service on digital terrestrial television next year.

Scottish may take some programmes from the planned ITV2 channel on digital but it is now planning its own devolved schedule. The aim is to pay more attention to Scottish sport, in particular local football, horse racing and golf.

Andrew Flanagan, Scottish Media's managing director, said yesterday that if Scottish did not set up its own dedicated service "you would just cannibalise your existing advertising revenue".

Yesterday Scottish announced record interim pre-tax profits of £18.5 million, up 80 per cent, for the six months to June 30. The results reflected a better than expected £7 million operating profit from Caledonian, publishers of *The Herald* and *Evening Times* in Glasgow, acquired last October.

Operating profit from continuing businesses, mainly television, rose 25 per cent to £11 million. Scottish Television's advertising revenue increased 5 per cent, well ahead of ITV as a whole. Scottish increased its share of total advertising revenue to 5.02 per cent (4.79 per cent). Earnings increased to 21.6p a share from 11.5p. The interim dividend rises 20 per cent to 6.6p a share.

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## Eurotunnel enjoys fast-track recovery

By OUR CITY STAFF

**E**UROTUNNEL's recovery from the fire that damaged the tunnel last November continued last month, with a 25 per cent rise in traffic on *Le Shuttle* trains, after a 29.5 per cent rise in July.

In the first eight months of the year, more than 1.34 million vehicles used *Le Shuttle*, little changed from the first eight months of last year, when it carried 1.39 million, despite the reduced service in the first five months of the year in the wake of the fire in November. A record number of vehicles for a single day, 10,986, were carried on August 29, the company said, and *Le Shuttle's* cross-channel market share is now more than 40 per cent.

Earnings rose to 9.6p a share from 7.7p and the interim dividend was raised to 4.25p a share from 4p. The shares fell 3p to 247p.

At its peak before last year's fire its market share had risen to about 45 per cent.

Eurostar passenger traffic between Paris, London and

Brussels grew 4.5 per cent in August from July and was up 20 per cent from August last year, with a record number of 681,663 passengers carried during the month.

*Le Shuttle* Freight has re-captured 67 per cent of last year's traffic level in only its second month since its re-launch, despite the fact that freight traffic is traditionally lower during August, Eurotunnel said.

Rail freight tonnage in August totalled 172,599 tonnes, compared with 134,774 in August last year. Eurotunnel said seasonal variations for rail freight has meant a slight decrease in tonnage this month, but shows an increase on August 1996 of 28 per cent.

Eurotunnel shares were unchanged at 69.1p yesterday. A year ago, they traded at 115p.

P&O's wait, page 29

## Builder sees calm revival in housing

By CHRIS AYRES

**W**ILOM BOWDEN, one of Britain's biggest housebuilders, says that prices in southern England are stabilising.

The company, which develops residential and commercial property, said it did not expect an unsustainable boom. The average price of its properties had risen by only 4 per cent over the past six months.

David Wilson, chairman, said: "The boom in the South has levelled out and the market is now less frothy and more sustainable. I do not think the market will get out of control."

The company has sold nearly 1,500 homes in the past half year, at an average £13,000.

In the half to June 30, pre-tax profits rose to £29.1 million, from £17.3 million, on turnover of £231 million (£147 million). Earnings per share were 21.2p (2.3p). The interim dividend is 3.3p (3p).

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STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

# EMI price holds despite further heavy turnover

WHAT is going on at EMI? Folk in the City want to know. There was further heavy turnover in the shares yesterday, even though the price held steady at 57p.

By the close of business, a further 2.15 million shares had changed hands. Not bad for a company in which the normal market size is just 15,000 shares. However, there was still no word from the company, still regarded as one of the hottest stocks among speculators.

There was talk on Friday that Seagram, the Canadian drinks and entertainment group, was poised to make an offer, but no bid was forthcoming. Trading-floor talk suggested EMI was about to make an announcement setting the record straight. Still nothing emerged.

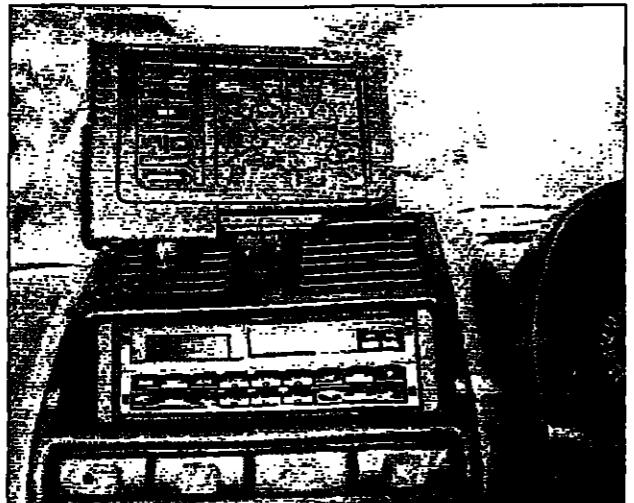
The music group has failed to live up to expectations since being demerged from Thorn in August last year, at the equivalent of 75p a share. The company has failed to impress in spite of handing back more than £500 million to shareholders. In July, Sir Colin Southgate, chairman, told shareholders this would be a difficult year.

The rest of the equity market ended the day on a flat note, unable to draw support from a firm opening rise on Wall Street. The stronger than expected industrial production numbers revived talk of a possible rise in interest rates when the Bank of England's monetary policy committee meets tomorrow.

In the event, the FTSE 100 index closed off its low for the day with a deficit of 9.0 points at 4,985.2 with fewer than 500 million shares traded.

There was wholesale confusion as trading got under way in British Energy before trading was suspended for several hours. The final instalment of 98p per partly-paid share falls due for payment next Monday. However, because of a mistake attributed to the Stock Exchange, some traders began quoting the shares fully paid at 30p, while others were trading in the partly paid form of 20p. Once the mistake was discovered, a halt was called between 8.44am and 11.30am. Trading resumed later, with the price ending at 30p as 1.38 million shares changed hands.

Dealers have complained that this is not the first time such a mistake has been made. There was a similar occurrence with



Trafficmaster ended higher on confirmation of merger talks

Railtrack, down 14p at 757p yesterday, when its shares were fully paid.

British Aerospace saw an early mark-up on the back of reports that it is close to demerging Arlington, its commercial property arm. The deal could raise up to £300 million. Société Générale Strauss Turnbull is enthusiastic and has been telling clients to switch out of Rolls-Royce.

2p firmer at 230p. BAe is due to unveil half year figures on Thursday that should show pre-tax profits more than £100 million higher at £295 million, with its defence order book stretching well into the next century. The shares closed 3p higher at 15.67p on turnover of almost a million shares.

Demerger is also on the agenda at P&O, up 13p at 660p, whose Bovis

housebuilding arm is to get a separate listing. Great Universal Stores, up 20p at 663p, also says that demerging Burberry's is still an option it might consider.

Savills, the estate agent, rose 2p to 150p on news that a top Hong Kong property company was investing £17 million in a 20 per cent stake. First Pacific is buying 10.6 million new shares at 160p.

The decision by Scottish-Power to seek a quote for its shares on Wall Street was rewarded with a rise of 7p to 469p. About 8 per cent of the company is due to be listed.

Burman Castroil has risen 100p since unveiling better than expected figures last week that included a hit of £2 million relating to currency transactions. The shares have been supported by "buy" recommendations from UBS, Dresdner Kleinwort Benson and BZW. The shares finished 3p firmer at 10.96p.

Trafficmaster touched 40p before ending the session 17p higher at 396p after confirming that it had entered merger talks with the AIM-listed Tracker Network, 65p better at 60p. At last night's closing levels the two companies have a combined worth of £146 million.

William Ransom was steady at 77p in spite of Michael Ransom, chairman, selling 25,000 shares at 75p. It reduces his holding to 510,923 shares, or 3.22 per cent of the company.

■ **GILT-EDGED:** The stronger than expected industrial production figures failed to put a brake on things, with prices holding on to their early gains. Trading was subdued, with investors anxious to digest today's inflation figures before committing themselves to opening fresh positions.

In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt rose 1.32 to 115.5 as a total of 34,000 contracts were completed. Among conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 gained 15.16 at £101.02. Among shorter-dated issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £1.32 better at £103.

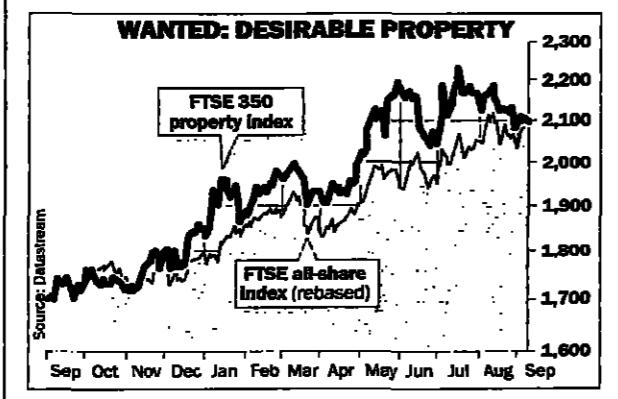
■ **NEW YORK:** Stocks closed higher as the market tracked the jump in bonds. Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve Chairman, did not rattle Wall Street with his latest comments on the economy. The Dow Jones industrial average ended up 12.77 points at 7,835.18.

MEPC's agreed bid for PSIT, up 22p at 196p, has refocused attention on the property sector, in which the clamour for the best sites is likely to result in further deals being struck. Before striking the deal with PSIT, MEPC, up 7p at 476p, had talked with Hammerson, down 8p to 442p, and Greycourt, 1p firmer at 184.1p, before breaking off talks as late as last week with Burford, down 8p at 105p.

The sector as a whole is stronger than ever, with the likes of Merrill Lynch, the broker, still recommending it to clients. Sources close to MEPC say that the PSIT acquisition should add 7p to its net asset value.

One broker said: "MEPC has been anxious to expand its property portfolio. It sees this deal as buying wholesale. It's just a 5 per cent premium to net asset."

Other brokers say MEPC has been looking to beef up its property side and it has been difficult to buy in the general market. Net asset values have been rising strongly and other companies are looking to buy more property.



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Taken at the flood: P&O hopes the current at the Department of Trade and Industry will prove favourable as it attempts to compete with the Channel Tunnel operators

## P&O awaits the DTI tide

**L**ife has not been kind to P&O Ferries recently. Its Dover to Calais market, once one of the biggest UK money-spinners, has been wrecked by a state-sponsored predator that trades while technically bust.

Its only escape route — joining forces with its arch-rival, Stena Line — has been blocked by painstaking government scrutiny, leaving it exposed to another summer of brutal competition from the Channel Tunnel.

But now, after what is set to become the longest-running DTI inquiry of the decade, things are moving. Ministerial sources say that Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, is preparing to give the formal green light by the end of this month.

Today P&O is meeting officials at the Office of Fair Trading to discuss conditions. The formula that is likely to emerge from the meeting is a custom-made inflation-linked system

which will, in effect, establish a recommended retail price system for ferry journeys.

P&O and Stena Line are also likely to be asked to give more ticketing booths and boarding space to rivals Sea France, Hoverspeed and Sally, and provide other assurances to the DTI that they will not abuse their market.

Both ferry operators are likely to agree at once. They say their main concern is that prices will fall through the floor under competition from the Channel Tunnel, and any safety net would be welcome.

Eurotunnel has proved to be the competitor from hell. It defies normal market forces. With debts of £8.76 billion and net liabilities of £871 million it should theoretically be dead.

The talks come as P&O's cross-Channel service is almost on its knees, having only ten years ago stood accused of being the most expensive mile-for-mile travel in the world.

In an attempt to fight compe-

### Fraser Nelson says the fortune of the proposed merger with Stena is bound up in the affairs of state

tion from the Channel Tunnel, it reduced its peak-time return ticket to match *Le Shuttle*'s brochure price of £165 — a 58 per cent decline on last year. The five ferries it ran from Dover to Calais each day have been carrying fewer and fewer passengers. Stena Line has been suffering from the same problem.

The logic from their Dover to Calais merger is to cut three of the nine daily services and share the administrative burden. The new company, to be called P&O Stena Line, would run the Dover to Calais passenger service, and the freight services between Newhaven and Dieppe, and Dover and Zeebrugge.

By not competing, they say

they will be able to run a lean, mean shuttle service that leaves Dover every 45 minutes — billing itself as a more frequent operator. Drivers, they say, will be able to pull up at any moment confident of an imminent departure. The idea, both insist, is to save money and not to increase ticket fees.

Analysts agree that if P&O and Stena Line were to raise prices it would amount to commercial suicide. With hardly any competitive advantage beyond cheap duty-free drink, undercutting *Le Shuttle* is seen as their only option.

The DTI, however, has had reservations that the merger may concentrate too much of the cross-Channel market in too few hands and pave the

way for a cartel between ship owners and Channel Tunnel operators.

Part of the negotiations that will take place today will be devoted to making sure the price-fixing power would leave them powerless to exploit such a position.

P&O has told Mrs Beckett that its problem can be solved by reducing the phenomenal costs of running a ferry. The chance to reduce its £300 million-a-year costs, it says, would be enough to restore its chances of competing against *Le Shuttle* without any ticket increases.

Each ship costs between £14 million and £17 million a year to run, through wages for a swath of staff both at sea and on land in addition to heavy maintenance, cleaning and safety costs.

If it does not have to compete against Stena Line, it could dispatch three ferries to another operation and save some £70 million a year. It costs

little to carry passengers. Those willing to walk on are charged less than £10 to cross the Channel — an offer which has proved popular with Kent students who are able to make the journey with the sole intention of buying two bottles of gin. Savings can be recouped at the duty-free bar, and they need spend only 20 minutes on French soil.

The opportunity to offer "boozie cruises" gives the ferries a distinct competitive advantage over *Le Shuttle*. Yet the lucrative duty-free market is set to be abolished in two years' time — wiping out another main subsidy for ferry fares.

It will no longer be possible to enjoy a cross-Channel drinking session for less money than a night out in Ashford — and travellers will no longer able to use their time on the ferry to wash the boot of their car with cheap beer.

This has not escaped the DTI's attention. It has been feared that, if the merger is waved through without any price conditions, both operators would be able to increase prices when proceeds from duty-free vanish.

Although the signs are good, P&O is still not claiming victory. "We think we have a tremendous chance of getting through, but the DTI's recent decisions have surprised many people and even on the glancing industrial logic we cannot be too sure."

If the worst happens and the link-up is rejected, analysts say that P&O will simply walk away, phasing down over five years. One leading P&O analyst concluded: "It has no moral duty to service the Dover to Calais line."

The P&O/Stena plan is not the most complicated merger in the world. Changes will be made to only one route, and both companies will compete on all other cross-Channel passenger routes.

But as ferries continue to be marginalised — by both the Channel Tunnel and cheap flights — the conditions imposed on P&O are likely to be used as a blueprint to judge the consolidation in the industry that is certain to follow.

## Windfall poll cheers Bank

If there is a lesson for economists from the extraordinary events in Britain over the past week, it is that predicting people's behaviour is virtually impossible. Dramatic shifts in the way society thinks and acts are the random element that no econometric model has been able to incorporate. In the 1980s, nobody anticipated the boom unleashed by financial deregulation. Now the question is how consumers will react to the building society windfalls that are being saved.

It is worth noting that, in spite of the potential injection of unprecedented spending power into the economy, Britain's savings rate has remained above 10 per cent. In 1988, it fell to 4 per cent. Remember too that windfalls that are being saved do not figure in the national accounts, being deemed, bizarrely, to be an identical amount of wealth whether held in mutual or demutualised companies.

The active choice to save windfalls provides a fascinating insight into today's consumer psychology and yet it does not appear in the national statistics.

Of the £3 billion in windfall shares, Mori estimates that around £6 billion has been spent but that a good proportion would have been spent anyway. The headline numbers on shares sold and proceeds spent are, if anything, slightly lower than the Bank feared in its baseline projections. In addition, questions about people's intentions suggest a considerable degree of caution. Of the 65 per cent of windfall shares still being held, only 5 per cent were deemed likely to be sold in the next year, with 57 per cent being held as long-term investments, and 38 per cent likely to be sold "if stock market conditions are favourable". Given huge rises in most building society shares since flotation, one has to wonder if the price will ever be right.

Even if the windfall threat seems less dramatic than it once was, the MPC is still left with crucial judgments on retail sales in general. It can, of course, be argued that the very fact that the windfall effect has been weaker than many expected is proof of how strong the underlying trend has been. In fact, the first evidence has emerged that sales are losing momentum under the weight of higher interest rates but it is early days.

Even if the economy slows, behaviour on windfalls is hard to predict. Some may liquidate their shares to maintain their spending power. Others will be more inclined to keep them saved as a hedge against greater economic uncertainty. Blessed will be the economist, or popular psychologist, who can anticipate which will prevail.

## WHY SETTLE FOR A LEVEL PLAYING-FIELD?

**infringe** v. 1 hair fashionably combed forward (see *Beatles*) 2 Rugby Football obstruct someone accidentally on purpose 3 to break a law or a right.

**ovation** n. 1 total lack of cheering or clapping (see *Synchronized Swimming*) 2 contract whereby a creditor at the request of the debtor agrees to take another person as debtor in place of the original debtor.

**placing** v. 1 a quota of flat fish 2 horses, dogs etc, in winning order (usu. foll. by *payout*) 3 act of placing shares on behalf of clients.

**court** n. 1 place to buy strawberries and cream 2 treat with flattering attention (esp. clients) 3 where justice is administered.

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## Time heals

THE rehabilitation of Jim Slater continues apace. Some of us, should his name arise, may think of the collapse of his Slater Walker empire. Words like "asset-stripper" may come to mind. Some may recall the keenness of the Singaporean Government to extradite him in 1976. Old men forget, however, and to a younger generation he is an investment guru.

Slater is hosting a brace of educational conferences shortly, in association with the worthy Proshare organisation and Barclays Bank's

private stock-broking arm. Neither see anything incongruous about linking their names with Slater's, so I suppose rehabilitation must now be complete. Barclays' Justin Urquhart Stewart says: "He's built up a reputation for someone who has been able to be a successful investor." Proshare's Terry Bond says: "We regard what he's doing as being the correct approach for educating the private investor." Neither are taking a fee, so all the financial risk lies with Slater. The maximum turnout is about 400 people each time, in which case he would be in the money.

WHICH City institution is advertising for a load of derivatives staff? ING Barings, which wants analysts, a confirmed negotiator, whatever that is, and a supervisor. This last will "ensure that derivatives trades are processed in an accurate and timely manner, and within the policies, procedures and controls set down by the organisation". Interviews for this post will presumably be particularly gruelling. And no one called Barings need bother to apply.

### Ripe moment

THE man from Del Monte he says: When do I start? As part of a slew of



signings that have gone largely unnoticed recently, Pannure Gordon has hired the chief financial officer from the South African pineapple peeler, Andrew Hawkins, at Charterhouse until last year and a brief career in the fruit trade, becomes a director of corporate finance at Pannure. This brings to six the number of senior appointments there, including two salesmen from Nomura, this month. I am told there are more to come.

### Ruche hour

I AM impressed with the enterprise of Hoare Govett types who went out last week for the stag night of Neil Collingridge, director of cor-

porate finance, ahead of his wedding at the weekend. He was promised £400, proceeds to cancer research, if he travelled back by Tube from the West End to Kenting wearing a ballerina's tutu and one of those plastic pairs of false breasts they sell to tourists. He did. He was also promised a further £100 for charity if he persuaded me to write about it. And I did. But just this once.

A JEANS manufacturer has put up posters featuring a be-jewelled female leg ending in a stiletto heel stamping firmly on a nude male torso. The headline: "Put the boot in." Very tasteful. Anyone care to speculate how long the ad would stay up if the boot were on the other foot, so to speak, and the sex roles reversed?

### Golden days

WILL CARLING has found a lucrative niche persuading credulous executives that success on the sports field can somehow rub off on them and be translated into success in business. Now Steve Redgrave, about the only surefire gold medalist we have still competing, is heading down the same route. The rower, who found further success in the Alps at the weekend in the coxless fours, has linked up with Galileo, a marketing consultancy founded by Simon Clegg, until the end of last year a managing director at Hoare Govett. (And no relation, strange coincidence

notwithstanding, of the Simon Clegg who is secretary of the British Olympic Association.)

Redgrave will be addressing a gathering of businessmen at Henley-on-Thames next month. They are being threatened with bromides such as "last year's performance will not win this year's competition". Perhaps he will lift his game into a new league on the day, as I believe the sports commentators say. Or perhaps the businessman will have to content themselves with meeting a real live sportsman and chatting about the Olympics and all that. And perhaps this will suffice.

MARTIN WALLER



Steve Redgrave will explain his vision of success in business

THE TIMES ON THE TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE



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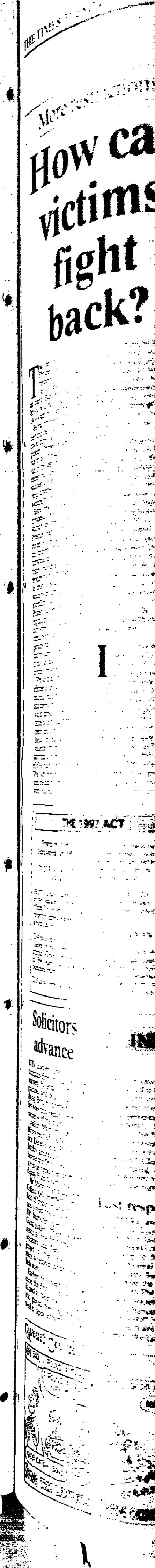
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## LAW

- BREATHE EASY 35
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More restrictions on the press? Yes, say Neil Addison and Tim Lawson-Cruttenden; no, says a QC

## How can victims fight back?

**T**he death of Diana, Princess of Wales, has reopened the debate on possible curbs on the press. But the debate's focus is on a possible privacy law — which misses the point.

The real problem is harassment and the inability of victims to curb intrusive photographers. Proper journalism may involve breaches in privacy in the legitimate public interest, but there is no legitimate public interest in anyone being subjected to obsessive hounding by photographers.

Before new legislation is introduced, it would be worth waiting to see whether the new Protection from Harassment Act can be used to deal with this problem. The Act was introduced to deal with the highly publicised stalking problem but has the potential to cover a wide range of situations including intrusive journalism. Last March, the Princess was reported as hoping that the Act would help to curb some of the excesses of intrusive photographers. It is perhaps part of her tragedy that on August 30 crucial parts of the Act had still not been brought into force.

The Act creates two criminal offences: a summary offence of causing harassment, alarm and distress on two occasions, which carries a potential sentence of six months' imprisonment, and a more serious offence of causing fear of violence on two occasions, carrying a potential sentence of five years' imprisonment. The Act provides a defence that the actions complained of were "reasonable". It is likely

that a legitimate press photographer acting in accordance with the journalists' code of conduct would always be acting reasonably, but the type of photographers who chased the Princess on motorcycles or who took photographs of Cherie Blair in her nightie would certainly not be acting "reasonably".

These offences came into force on June 16 but there are difficulties in their enforcement. To arrest the alleged harasser, the police must be able to prove beyond reasonable doubt that two separate incidents of harassment occurred. That is not easy unless the police officer has an individual personal involvement in a particular case. In the case of harassment by journalists-photographers there is also a natural caution on the part of the police, who want to avoid accusations of press censorship. Consequently, the criminal parts of the Act will probably not be very effective in dealing with intrusive press photographers.

In this respect, the Act's more relevant part is Section 3, which relates to injunctions but which has not been brought fully into force. It makes harassment a tort and allows courts to grant injunctions to prevent it.

However, this on its own does not particularly improve the existing law because injunctions to prevent harassment have been obtainable since a 1995 case, *Burris v Azadani*. The problem is enforcing the injunctions.

Breach of an injunction,



including an anti-harassment injunction, is punishable as a contempt of court. But police have power neither to enforce an injunction nor to arrest anyone breaking any of the injunction's terms. So all too often injunctions can be ignored by harassers and stalkers. The consultation exercise undertaken before the Act came into force highlighted this as a major problem in dealing with harassing behaviour.

The Act therefore introduced the unique idea of making breach of an anti-harassment injunction a criminal offence punishable with up to five years' jail. This will give the police the power to arrest an offender when an anti-harassment injunction is breached. Also, anyone involved in encouraging the harasser (including news editors who bought their pictures) could potentially be prosecuted as an aider and abettor. The Government plans to bring this part of the Act into force next month.

Making breach of injunctions a criminal offence may be unprecedented in English law but is common in many other jurisdictions. Section 17 of Canada's Criminal Code, for example, makes breach of any court order a criminal offence and there are similar provisions in the laws of most American states.

In California local authorities and police have successfully

co-operated to use public nuisance injunctions to curb criminal gangs terrorising neighbourhoods.

One of the advantages of proceeding by injunctions in the first instance is that the arguments as to whether the alleged harasser is acting reasonably or not can be properly explored by the civil court and a judgment made balancing the respective rights of the alleged harasser and the alleged victim. Unlike a criminal trial, which concentrates on whether a person's past actions were illegal, a civil court can look at the more straightforward question of whether behaviour is acceptable and should be allowed to continue. The police are merely enforcing a court decision instead of making the initial judgment themselves.

• Neil Addison, a barrister, and Tim Lawson-Cruttenden, a solicitor-advocate, are co-authors of Blackstone's Guide to the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, price £14.95.

### LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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## Solicitors advance

CITY lawyers are used to American firms invading their territory by establishing UK practices and poaching high-flying British partners. But last week they began a new invasion — of the courts.

Arthur Marriott, QC, the British head of the New York firm Debevoise & Plimpton's London arbitration unit, has become the first of two solicitors to be appointed part-time deputy High Court judges.

Mr Marriott and Lawrence Collins, QC, Herbert Smith's head of litigation and arbitration, joined the elite band of 200 barrister deputy High Court judges. Their appointments as the first practising solicitors qualified to sit as judges in the High Court mark a second landmark for both men.

Earlier this year they became the first solicitors to be invited to take silk — a move that paved the way for last week's appointments, which

are by invitation only and, according to the Lord Chancellor's Department, are made from among the ranks of the most experienced and able practitioners". The two join Mr Justice Sachs, a full-time High Court judge, as the High Court's only solicitor judges.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, said last week that he wanted to "open up the ranks of the higher judiciary".

### Last respects

A SOMBRE atmosphere prevailed in London's legal square mile last week. Befitting the mood of the nation in the run-up to the Princess of Wales's funeral on Saturday, Union Flags fluttered at half-mast above the Royal Courts of Justice in The Strand and at the Law Society's headquarters in Chancery Lane. The Inns of Court were quiet, as they usually are at this time of the year. The Lord Chancellor

Slapper: registrations rising

THE Chief Justice of India, the Mr Justice J.S. Verma, will be expanding on the Indian legal experience in the 50 years since independence in a lecture at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in Russell Square, London tonight.

Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls, will introduce his judicial colleague at the lecture, which has been jointly organised by the institute and the Society for Advanced Legal Studies in celebration of 50 years of independence. Fifty years under the rule of law: The Indian Experience is open to all and starts at 5.30.

### SCRIVENOR

### STEUART & FRANCIS



## Resist pressure for a rushed law

In March this year, I represented Diana, Princess of Wales, in industrial tribunal proceedings in Croydon brought by a former employee who was claiming unfair dismissal. I saw the Princess in conference and she decided not to attend the hearing.

A large number of journalists (not previously known for their interest in employment law) were present inside and outside the tribunal in the hope that she would appear. On leaving the building after the case was settled, I found it a disturbing, and puzzling, experience to be surrounded and jostled by dozens of photographers taking hundreds of pictures of the representatives and advisers of the Princess getting into a taxi and driving off.

I would be very surprised if any of those photographs was ever published. Perhaps some of the photographers hoped that the Princess's barrister or solicitor might punch one of them on the nose, and so create a story. To live under that pressure constantly must be intolerable. But does the law need to be amended to confer greater protection on public figures to protect them from the press?

English law already provides a remedy against the sort of harassment for which paparazzi journalists are responsible if it takes place in this country. Last year, the Princess of Wales obtained an injunction from the High Court against specific photographers to stop them from harassing her. The legal basis for her claim, the law of nuisance, was weakened earlier this year by a House of Lords decision — but that is academic because of the new Protection from Harassment Act 1997. This legislation makes it a criminal offence, punishable by imprisonment, for a person knowingly and unreasonably to pursue "a course of conduct which amounts to harassment of another". The Act also enables victims to seek the civil remedies of an injunction and damages. We will need to watch carefully how the Act is applied in practice (not all of it is yet in force). But the content of the new statute appears to address competing interests fairly and to provide effective remedies.

The harsh reality is that our law cannot, in practice, control the behaviour of journalists and photographers in France (a country which, in any event, has some of the strictest privacy laws in Europe). It has been suggested that newspaper editors should be required not to publish paparazzi pictures, so deterring such photographers from intruding into, and endangering, the lives of others abroad.

This is unrealistic. The paparazzi would be only mildly inconvenienced by the loss of the market in the United Kingdom for pictures

which have a worldwide appeal. But it is also unsustainable in principle. Are we really to impose a statutory ban on photographs being published in the United Kingdom because of the circumstances in which they were obtained, even when the photographs were taken in a public place, and when the material may be seen by anyone with access to CNN television or a magazine such as *Paris Match*?

Nor is the case made out for enactment of a general right to privacy, prohibiting the publication of true information which concerns a matter which the individual wishes to keep confidential. The United Kingdom press, with editors subject to powerful laws relating to contempt of court, obscenity, breach of confidence, trespass, and libel, is one of the most strictly regulated in the Western world. There are already legal remedies for most serious invasions of privacy.

The press is also subject to the jurisdiction of the Press Complaints Commission (PCC), a self-regulating authority which works effectively to apply a code which prohibits intrusions into, and the publication of matters relating to, a person's private life except where this can be justified in the public interest.

Whether the public interest in a story outweighs the privacy of an individual is a difficult and sensitive issue. Other than in extreme circumstances, the law should leave such questions to be resolved by a self-regulating body composed of people with experience of the media as well as independent persons, rather than the courts.

Statutory regulation is unnecessary in this context for a further reason. The Government plans to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law. Article 8 guarantees the right to private life. But any complaint about an invasion of privacy needs to be considered by reference also to Article 10, which protects freedom of expression.

Maintaining a proper balance between these competing interests is not easy. Once the Convention is incorporated, the courts will be able to consider, on specific facts, whether the common law, and the rulings of the PCC, provide adequate safeguards, having regard to the importance of free speech.

Hard cases make bad law. The very worst type of law is that conceived as an emotional response to tragic events. Politicians should resist the temptation to legislate as a response to the death of the Princess.

• The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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### EMPLOYMENT LAW

IDS Brief is looking for a lawyer to join the team researching and writing on employment law for the fortnightly journal and a range of handbooks used by personnel managers, unions, lawyers and tribunals. IDS Brief is the legal department of Incomes Data Services, the UK's leading independent employment research organisation.

Applicants should have studied employment law at least to degree level, and should have excellent writing skills. A demonstrable interest in employment law is essential and practical experience would be a distinct advantage. Applicants must be self-starters, able to work to deadlines as part of a small team. Basic familiarity with word processing is necessary, and interpersonal skills are important as the job involves answering legal enquiries from subscribers.

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Further details and an application form are available from the Personnel Department (0171-930 4441 ext. 501). Please send a completed application form and covering letter addressed in strict confidence to Esi Kepela, Personnel Manager at the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, 7 Northumberland Street, London WC2N 5DA, to arrive no later than Wednesday, 1 October 1997.

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Rises and falls in the housing market have brought problems for solicitors. Now they have some good news about claims from lenders who lost out  
Wanda Barry welcomes a ruling that solicitors cannot be made responsible for lenders' losses

The revival of the property market brings chattering memories for many solicitors. In the late 1980s, when the market collapsed, many building societies and others who had lent enthusiastically in the boom years were left unable to recover sums due under their mortgages when borrowers defaulted.

This sparked a flood of claims against solicitors as lenders sought alternative means of recovering their losses. Various adverse court rulings left the profession feeling that it was being made the scapegoat by an industry all too eager to lend to almost anyone who could fill in an application form, on the basis that property prices would continue to rise. If a borrower defaulted, the mortgaged property could be sold to recover the debt.

But a recent Court of Appeal decision in *National Home Loans Corporation v Giffen Couch & Archer* has, for the time being, put an end to hundreds of actions pending in the courts and lifted a multimillion-pound bill for the Solicitors Indemnity Fund (SIF).

The case concerned the information that solicitors should have provided about their client-borrowers to the mortgage company. National Home Loans Corporation said that its solicitors had not informed it that the borrowers, to whom it had offered a loan by way

## Risk returns to its rightful owner

of remortgage, were in arrears with their existing mortgage.

NHL had not known about the arrears because it had not carried out the usual inquiries. In the late 1980s, NHL adopted a "self-certification" policy under which it allowed borrowers to sign a declaration that they were not in arrears with their existing mortgage and did not obtain independent confirmation. It was a policy aimed at increasing market share.

The borrowers defaulted and NHL eventually realised its security was suffering a loss because of the fall in the value of the property. It sued for and recovered that loss from the solicitors, who were found negligent in not reporting the arrears.

At the original hearing, although the judge accepted that the solicitors had complied with NHL's written instructions, he found them in breach of a wider, general duty to report the arrears. He found that

NHL's self-certification policy was not negligent, although it might have been imprudent.

The decision created widespread concern within the profession. Its effect was that solicitors could not rely on the lender's written instructions to identify matters that needed to be reported. Even if they complied, they could be held liable for not reporting facts that the lender had not identified as being relevant.

Solicitors had to place themselves in the position of a lender to decide what might be relevant to a lending decision. However, solicitors cannot be expected to know, beyond matters of title, what a lender might consider relevant.

One of the ironies of the judgment was that if, in performing this exercise, the solicitors placed themselves in the position of the imprudent, albeit not negligent, lender, as

in this case, they would be found liable to the lender; solicitors became underwriters of the losses suffered by lenders who adopted risky lending policies, in order to increase their market share.

The Court of Appeal has now reversed the decision, finding that the judge had overlooked the principle that the extent of the duty of a solicitor depends on the terms of the retainer. Any implied duty must be related to what the solicitor has been instructed to do.

NHL provided detailed instructions specifying the things it wanted to know. NHL, as an experienced commercial lender, was best placed to instruct its solicitors on any facts it considered relevant to its decision to lend.

NHL had made no inquiry about the conduct of the borrowers' existing mortgage and, therefore, it was not a matter that could be said to have been relevant to its decision. The Court of Appeal decision is a

victory for common sense. It recognises that solicitors are not lenders and it has, quite properly, restored to the lender responsibility for investigating the financial position of the borrower and for informing its solicitors of factors it considers relevant to its lending decision. What may be relevant to one lender will not necessarily be relevant to another, as lenders adopt different policies and market different products.

The decision brings to a halt the substantial number of pending actions brought by NHL and other lenders on the same allegation, and comes as good news to solicitors. Hopefully, it will mark the beginning of the end of the bombardment of claims by lenders against solicitors as lenders face up to the hard, but obvious, fact that as commercial organisations, they must bear responsibility for the losses they incurred at the end of the property boom. In reality such losses were a result of risky lending policies, economic hardship suffered by borrowers and the property market crash.

The Court of Appeal's message could not have been more timely, after a brief abandonment, some lenders begin again to offer self-certified loans and loans to those with poor credit histories.

• The author is a solicitor with Mills & Reeve.

## Paying attention to negligence

Litigation against professionals has increased, reports Edward Fennell

Bad news has been greeting solicitors arriving home from their holidays — their contributions to the Solicitors Indemnity Fund (SIF) must rise sharply. The fund provides compulsory insurance cover for the profession and many firms are having to increase their contributions by more than 50 per cent in order to meet a multimillion-pound shortfall.

But the solicitors are the only group to face growing claims over professional negligence and there is now an increasingly high profile niche practice for lawyers acting for (and against) other professionals caught up in these cases. Paul Haggatt of Salmon Burges, a Bristol firm, believes that solicitors have come rather later into the firing line. He says: "Accountants went through a difficult time in the early Nineties and so did valuers. Now it's the time for the solicitors."

Mr Haggatt normally acts on behalf of plaintiffs in these cases but colleagues elsewhere in the firm act for defendants. Most of the best-known professional negligence practitioners are defendant-based and usually their work is linked to insurance practices. It is the insurance funds which, as the SIF case illustrates, pick up the tab for a professional's mistake and they are determined not to be taken for a ride.

Chris Lowney, an insurance specialist with Fishburn Boxer says: "I wouldn't suggest that the professions have become more incompetent. But in the aftermath of the recession there was a shotgun approach by plaintiffs who had suffered a loss. They were keen to sue everyone in sight."

Fishburn Boxer operates as the nominated lawyer for the RIBA Insurance Scheme, the architects' equivalent of the SIF. Mr Lowney's experience is that

when a building deal, for example, goes wrong, the plaintiff will move against all the professionals — architects, surveyors, valuers and engineers — and then sit back and let them argue it out between themselves.

Identifying negligence is no easy task, so it is no wonder that demand for lawyers has multiplied in the corporate field. As Mr Lowney points out, however, there is no highly active "plaintiff bar" in the UK (as there is in the US) and the legal aid system tends to put barriers in front of what might be regarded as "trivial cases" launched by individuals. Mr Lowney says: "So far we have been saved from the worst excesses of the American experience."

Even so, many lawyers involved in this work will admit that the commercial pressures under which professionals work today have played a big part in the growth of litigation. John Hall, an insurance specialist

with Cameron McKenna, acknowledges that in the field of valuation, there is a lot of "sloppy work". However, the rise of the property market from the 1970s onwards meant that these shortcomings were not exposed until the property crash of the early 1990s. Similarly, the competition for conveyancing work among solicitors meant that corners were cut in the early Nineties, with the inevitable consequences now seen in the SIF's shortfall in funds.

But as Julian Randall of Barlow Lyde & Gilbert, probably the leading firm nationally in professional negligence, points out, the expectations placed on professionals to "get it right" are sometimes unreasonable. "If a fraudster is determined to deceive his accountants it is very hard to stop him. And yet if the company then goes bust the accountant is expected to carry the can."

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## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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### LITIGATION IN-HOUSE

2 to 4 Years Qualified

The substantial legal team within this well-known UK bank now seeks an additional litigator with good working and practical knowledge of High Court/Court of Appeal procedure, an ability to deal with different stages of litigation and an aptitude for researching cases and often complex points of law. There is opportunity to work on very broad range of litigation matters in an in-house team. As this is a large department, support and back up are exceptional. Legal executives considered. Ref: T12148.G.

### COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

2 to 5 Years Qualified

A major US firm with significant presence in London (over twenty five years) and particular strengths on the finance and corporate side is actively recruiting lawyers to handle acquisitions and disposals, investment fund work, issues and privatisations. Salaries are much higher than those offered by UK firms and are on a level with New York. The practice will look for candidates from top regional firms as well as the City. Exciting opportunity. Ref: T12152.E.

### RANKING

2 to 5 Years Qualified

Having already successfully recruited a number of solicitors from leading London and other international law firms, this top five Australian practice with over 150 partners is seeking three further assistants to handle general banking, project finance and capital markets work. The practice is regarded as one of the premier banking practices and acts for governments, banks and blue chip corporations on transactions throughout the Southern Hemisphere. Ref: T11223.D.

### NON-CONTENTIOUS CONSTRUCTION

Sydney Hong Kong

Established office of a leading City firm now requires a senior solicitor with at least five year's post qualification experience of non-contentious construction and proven marketing skills which are required to lead and develop the construction team based in Hong Kong. The firm envisages partnership within a very short period of time. You are required to be admitted in Hong Kong in due course. Ref: T12067.C.

### HKS Partnership

Established office of a leading City firm now requires a senior solicitor with at least five year's post qualification experience of non-contentious construction and proven marketing skills which are required to lead and develop the construction team based in Hong Kong. The firm envisages partnership within a very short period of time. You are required to be admitted in Hong Kong in due course. Ref: T12067.C.

### INSOLVENCY

2 to 3 Years Qualified

An upsurge in the number of insolvency transactions sees across the country has meant that this top 10 City firm now seeks a further junior insolvency lawyer. Both those with contentious and non-contentious experience would be of interest and the firm encourages applicants from those with smaller firm backgrounds. The department excels in its very successful training programme and working environment. Ref: T6783.G.

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## Global IT Corporate Legal Director

Slough

An acknowledged leader in the IT sector, our client is an international information technology company specialising in systems integration and services. It also provides its customers with a wide range of world class hardware and software products.

Its key business is one of the world's largest and most competitive systems integration businesses with a tight focus on solutions for companies in the UK and European region. There is a requirement for a Legal Director for this business unit to build and manage a legal team with both domestic and pan-European responsibilities.

This is a unique opportunity to develop the role itself and the legal department's relationship with the wider business. To meet our clients' expectations, you must be pro-active and a natural communicator with excellent

c £75,000 + Benefits

commercial and legal skills. You will preferably have at least 10 years' post qualification experience gained largely in one of the major IT telecoms or electronics companies where you will have had responsibility for a team of legal advisers.

You will enjoy working in a team environment with challenging senior managerial responsibility for the legal processes of a business that involves high value, complex contracting for diverse business environments.

If you have the skills, desire and experience to take advantage of this exciting opportunity, then please send your CV together with contact and salary details in complete confidence to Daniel Richards at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LN, fax 0171 831 6662, or telephone him on 0171 269 2234.

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## Commercial Lawyer

London

The Wellcome Trust currently spends some £250 million on research every year — laying the foundations for the healthcare advances of the next century and helping to maintain the UK's reputation as one of the world's leading scientific nations.

As a non-profit making organisation and registered charity, it supports more than 3,000 researchers at 300 locations in 30 different countries. It supports scientists in fields as diverse as structural biology and clinical psychology. It supports researchers beginning their careers and those at the peak of their professions.

The Trust now requires a junior lawyer to work with the Head of Legal Services, dealing with a wide range of issues including drafting and negotiating commercial contracts, co-ordinating contact with the external legal advisers and ensuring that the Trust is legally protected in its activities.

Your profile:

- 1-3 years post qualification commercial, charitable or non-contentious intellectual property experience gained either in private practice or in-house.
- Experience of applying legal expertise to a range of business and legal problems.
- Strong analytical communication and interpersonal skills.

To find out more about this opportunity to work for a unique organisation, please contact Catherine Brown or Dan Richards, the exclusively retained consultants for this assignment, on 0171 269 2484 or send them your curriculum vitae to Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LN. Fax 0171 831 6662.

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## PRIVATE PRACTICE &amp; IN-HOUSE

**CORPORATE RECOVERY** £TOP CITY  
Market leading corporate recovery group at top City firm seeks 2-3 year qualified transactions insolvency lawyer. You need to be talented, ambitious and have experience of rescues, reconstructions, administrations, etc., to join this dynamic department. If you welcome high levels of responsibility and the opportunity to travel we would like to hear from you. (Ref.20120)

**IN-HOUSE IT 2.5 yrs' ppc** £TOP CITY  
International bank with strong European business seeks IT lawyer to work in a specialist team supporting other parts of the business. You will join a team with a high profile externally. You will, ideally, be 3-5 years qualified with an in-depth knowledge of the technical aspects and commercial demands of the IT sector. Wide range of work, which will include software development, acquisitions and outsourcing. Experience of end-user or supplier preferred. (Ref.20214)

**SENIOR EMPLOYMENT** £50-70,000  
A clearly defined role for a 5 year plus qualified solicitor to act as number two to the lead employment lawyer at this top 20 City firm. The firm is growing at a steady rate and enjoys a leading position in the London corporate and financial markets. Working with other talented lawyers on high profile work you will be assured of a supportive environment with excellent prospects. (Ref.10446)

**IT** TO £50,000  
Major City firm with rapidly growing IT presence seeks 2-4 year IT lawyer to join young, dynamic and highly successful team. With broad experience in the IT sector, you need to have demonstrable commercial acumen and the ability to play a lead role on major transactions. Apply if you are a dynamic and comfortable working in a demanding environment. (Ref.19084)

**EC COMPETITION** TO £44,000  
Unique City practice with enviable blue chip corporate connections seeks 2-3 year qualified lawyer with EC Competition experience to join growing and dynamic corporate/commercial department. An excellent opportunity for you to make your mark if you are a highly talented lawyer with good experience in this sector. If you see a legal gem ahead, this will be the ideal move. (Ref.10330)

For further information on these, and the many other vacancies registered with us, please contact: Yvonne Smyth or Andrew Golding (both qualified lawyers) on 0171-523 3838 (0171-469564 evenings/weekends). For in-house vacancies please contact Lisa Hicks on 0171-523 3838 (0171-642 5237 evenings/weekends) or write to us at: ZMB, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 3PY. Confidential fax 0171-523 3839. E-mail: yvonne@zmb.co.uk Web site: <http://www.zmb.co.uk>

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

£55-80,000

This profitable, well managed medium sized City firm has significantly increased its market share of the highly competitive financial services sector, advising in particular on the regulatory framework governing commodities, securities and funds. Now seeking a dynamic lawyer with short term partnership aspiration and a complementary portfolio of contacts to slot into the team. (Ref.20533)

## IN-HOUSE COMMERCIAL

TO £70,000

Highly successful logistics pit with household name customers seeks a 4-6 year qualified commercial lawyer to set up the London based legal function. You will have good commercial experience, ideally including exposure to high value contract negotiations, and relish the challenge of starting a department from scratch in a thriving business that will definitely be of interest. (Ref.20462)

## PROPERTY FINANCE / RETAIL

TO £50,000

Pre-eminent City property department with unrivalled quality and flow of work is seeking 1-4 year qualified lawyers to specialize in innovative property finance work. Excellent academic essential. Due to unprecedented growth in this sector, candidates with good property financing experience and a desire to be retained are actively encouraged to apply. (Ref.10047)

## CONSTRUCTION

TO £38,000

Central London firm with pre-eminent reputation in the property and construction sectors seeks 2-3 year qualified lawyer with contentious experience to join busy construction team. Exciting opportunity for a talented, hard working, ideally retained lawyer with a keen interest in complex transactions which have an increasingly international project flavour. (Ref.20527)

## IN-HOUSE JUNIOR COMMERCIAL

£30,000

This successful and rapidly expanding software distribution and internet solutions provider is seeking a 2-3 year qualified company commercial lawyer to join the small legal team in Cambridge. You need to be practical and commercial with a strong personality to fit into this dynamic and innovative culture. With an excellent package of benefits on offer, why not explore this exciting opportunity to live and work outside London. (Ref.20523)

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One of Australia's leading law firms, this dynamic practice has built its success on a 'can-do' approach and a solid commitment to excellence; an approach that has created the 21st largest law firm in the world.

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Energy Industry - with a focus on the deregulation of both the electricity and gas industries.

Corporate - with transactional experience in all corporate matters.

Banking & Finance - experience in structured or project finance, securitisation or structured capital markets products sought.

Construction - with a background of negotiating and

documenting transactions or advising during project implementation and dispute resolution.

Information Technology - with a sound corporate law background and a focus on IT and non-contentious intellectual property matters.

Telecoms - with a broad background of advising on industry issues.

If you're ready to take the longest jump of your career (about 10,000 miles in fact), you can look forward to relocation assistance, a first-rate salary and benefits package, high-quality work, and the very real opportunity for fast-track professional development.

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## Chambers Research

The new edition of our directory has had a greater impact than any previous edition. It has always been well-researched. Research was its trademark. Recently the effort we put in is more noticeable. There are more research findings actually reproduced in the editorial. Chambers' firms and individuals are more precise, reflecting verbatim the opinions of the market.

Readers have also reacted favourably to the fact that this edition has been audited by the British Market Research Bureau (BMRB). Our research team of a dozen auditors and a further six months from January to June conducted lengthy interviews with practitioners and clients. Over 4,000 interviews in total were held, covering all the main areas of practice.

The BMRB executive who investigated us questioned our research team and carried out in-depth checks. The audit is a clean bill. "We have audited Chambers' research methods and found them well-tailored to their aim, which is to identify the leading lawyers in all the main areas of law. Their methodology is valid, and the implementation is of a high professional standard."

The book is bigger and heavier than ever, with nearly 1,700 pages, and the price has gone up to £40, but with all the information it now contains we trust it will continue to be one of Hammick's Top Ten best-sellers.

Michael Chambers

CHAMBERS' DIRECTORY  
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## INDUSTRY

Sonya Rayner, Fiona Boxall, Morwenna Lewis, Alison Shepherd

## Property/Commercial

Derby

Luxury goods company seeks solicitor c. 3-4 years' ppc for mixed role including commercial conveyancing, commercial contracts and some company secretarial.

## Consumer Goods

N Home Counties

Household name requires lawyer min 5 years' ppc to be responsible for international commercial issues.

Strong negotiating skills essential and French an advantage. Considerable travel.

## Employment

Berkshire

Junior lawyer sought to handle non-contentious

employment and personnel matters, some contentious

employment work and general commercial/company secretarial.

## Partnership Positions

We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners into work.

## Insurance Partner

City

Large, profitable and well managed City firm seeks insurance/insurance partner with substantial following to head an exciting new business project.

## Head of London Office

US Firm

Prestigious US firm seeks a senior transactional solicitor (corporate and/or finance experience) for its London office. Practice inundated with work.

## Construction

West End

Leading West End firm seeks non-contentious construction assistant with up to 5 years' ppc to handle high quality domestic and international work.

## Company/Commercial Partner

City

Small, upmarket firm seeks senior solicitor for broad range of work for private company clients. Greater emphasis on law than on rainmaking.

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

## IN-HOUSE | PRACTICE

## ► Intellectual Property

This profitable, well managed medium sized City firm has significantly increased its market share of the highly competitive financial services sector, advising in particular on the regulatory framework governing commodities, securities and funds. Now seeking a dynamic lawyer with short term partnership aspiration and a complementary portfolio of contacts to slot into the team. (Ref.20533)

Ref.2534

## ► Contracts Litigator

One of London's largest law firms wishes to supplement its existing team of commercial lawyers and is seeking a contracts litigator with at least 4 years experience. You will work as part of a focused team, initially dealing with the trial of a large commercial fraud claim but with the option to become involved in other cases. Contact Rachael North. Ref.29878K

Ref.29878K

## ► Employment

This global information solutions company seeks a 5 to 7 year qualified IT lawyer to draft and negotiate an extensive range of IT contracts and provide advice on general commercial matters. Contact Rachael North. Ref.14848N

Ref.14848N

## ► Company Commercial - NO

A newly qualified lawyer is required for this well known information technology company to join a small team and assume a commercial role. Contact Rachael North. Ref.22948RN

Ref.22948RN

## ► Company/Commercial

This private international company seeks a 3 to 5 year qualified lawyer to join a small team. You will act as Company Secretary and Legal Adviser and deal with a varied workload including company/commercial law, contracts, employment, IP and property matters. Contact Rachael North. Ref.14968JF

Ref.14968JF

## ► Banking/Capital Markets

This leading US practice now requires finance lawyers with City training and between 6 months and 4 years experience to undertake finance and/or derivatives related work. The quality of work and rewards offered will be excellent. Contact Jane Foster. Ref.2877JF

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## ► General Commercial

This specialist Indian firm with offices in 2 continents requires a newly to 3 year qualified lawyer with general commercial experience to work in Paris for their small, successful practice. Contact Daniel Lewis. Ref.1522D

Ref.1522D

## ► Senior Information Technology

Berkshire

This major computer manufacturer requires a 5 to 10 year qualified lawyer from either private practice or in-house with international Information Technology experience. The position will involve some travel. Contact Naveen Tuli. Ref.494NT

Ref.494NT

## ► Senior Legal Counsel

Paris

This leading French telecommunications company has an opportunity for a lawyer with some French to undertake an international role involving complex high value contracts. Contact Naveen Tuli. Ref.387NT

Ref.387NT

## ► Banking/Finance Capital Markets

City

We are pleased to announce that we have recently been joined by St. John Whittle, a banking solicitor from a major City firm. St. John is developing our existing business within this sector and we have opportunities for solicitors and barristers with relevant experience at all levels. Contact St. John Whittle. Ref.569AF

Ref.569AF

## ► Commercial Litigation

Jersey

This leading South East commercial practice has an opening for a commercial litigator, newly to 2 years qualified. This is an excellent opportunity for a young litigator to specialise early and establish a name for him or herself in quality property litigation. Contact Andre Field.

Ref.2117AF

## ► Securities Lawyer

National Firm - London Office

Our client has a growing reputation in the media industry. With the expansion of the British film industry, an interesting niche is developing for a banking lawyer with between 3 and 5 years general experience who would like to specialise in media finance. Contact Andre Field.

Ref.2117AF

## ► Commercial Litigation

Kent

This leading South East commercial practice has an opening for a commercial litigator, newly to 2 years qualified. This is an excellent opportunity for a young litigator to specialise early and establish a name for him or herself in quality property litigation. Contact Andre Field.

Ref.2117AF

## ► Media Banking

National Firm - London Office

Our client has a growing reputation in the media industry. With the expansion of the British film industry, an interesting niche is developing for a banking lawyer with between 3 and 5 years general experience who would like to specialise in media finance. Contact Andre Field.

Ref.2117AF

## ► Commercial Litigation

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This high-profile island practice wants to recruit a 5-8 year qualified off-shore specialist to undertake a mixture of securities/corporate finance transactions. Contact Daniel Lewis. Ref.2877JF

Ref.2877JF

## ► Commercial Litigation

Paris

This specialist Indian firm with offices in 2 continents requires a newly to 3 year qualified lawyer with general commercial experience to work in Paris for their small, successful practice. Contact Daniel Lewis. Ref.1522D

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## ► General Commercial

## DIRECTOR OF KNOW-HOW

## City Law Firm

£80,000

Our client is an international law firm based in the City which has seen its legal practice expand and develop, particularly in the last two years. Already possessing an established infrastructure of Training, Information and Legal Support Services, it has decided for strategic reasons to recruit a Director of Know-How who will report directly to the Practice Partner, a member of the London offices' four partner Management Committee.

The Director of Know-How will be responsible for the strategic management and development of the London office's precedents and know-how, and will also manage the firm's Professional Support Lawyers, setting the strategy and objectives of that team. The individual will be expected to draft precedents and practice notes, and to contribute to the London office's internal and external publications. He or she will also co-ordinate the firm's response to changes and prospective changes in English and UK law and deliver presentations, both internally and to clients.

The role will involve regular contact with partners and with colleague Directors of Library & Information Services and of Training, as well as liaison with the firm's International Know-How Centre.

The ideal candidate will be a high calibre lawyer with a corporate/commercial background and experience of practice up to a senior level. Preference may well be given to those with previous experience as professional support lawyers. Success in this challenging "front-line" role will require drive, vision and considerable management expertise. Excellent communication skills and a practical, business-like approach are essential, as is a real interest in the application of advanced IT systems in the legal environment.

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If you feel you have the experience and personality, please send your CV, including salary details and a daytime telephone number, to **Hugh Kelly** at Kellyfield Consulting, Moor House, 119 London Wall, London EC2Y 5ET. Alternatively, in strictest confidence, please contact him on 0171 588 7878 (0171 226 9398 evenings/weekends). Confidential fax: 0171 588 7020.

## In-House • London • Regions

**CO/COM** c.3yrs International PR co, a leader in its field, seeks 1st lawyer to join young, dynamic team. Rare opening for outgoing lawyer looking for commercial exposure in upbeat environment.

**FUND MANAGEMENT** 3-5yrs City trained financial services lawyer to join funds arm of leading investment bank. Varied, int'l workload, superb prospects & package.

**CORP FINANCE** 3-4 & 5yrs High profile global investment bank seeks two City trained corporate finance lawyers for front line transactional roles.

**FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS** Bright lawyer sought by City Regulator to handle financial investigations & disciplinary proceedings. Related or banking litigation experience would be ideal. Salary c. £25k.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY** 1-3yrs Marvelous opportunity for IP lawyer to join established legal team in blue chip co, carrying out a variety of trademark, copyright & brands work. Great first in-house move.

**COMMERCIAL** c.5yrs North West - Great opportunity for senior co/commercial lawyer with experience of competition and IP law to join blue chip company in international 'hands on' role.

**IT. COMPANY** 3yrs+ N. London- Major IT co seeks experienced IT lawyer to advise upon systems integration or facilities management agreements. Position initially offered on a contract basis with good prospects of becoming long term/permanent.

**CONSTRUCTION** c.2yrs Midlands - Household name co, seeks non-contentious lawyer to join established team, handling full range of construction work.

**COMMERCIAL** 3-5yrs M4 Corridor - Dynamic, fast expanding high-tech company seeks lawyer for Europe wide role handling wide range of commercial contracts. Good prospects to grow with co.

Please contact **Caroline Fish** or **Sophie Brooks (London)**, **Liz Nezer (Regions)** or **Brigitte Burdon (In-House)** on 0171 430 1711 or write to **Graham Gill & Young**, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax 0171 831 4186.

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## COMMERCIAL LIT

NQ-2yrs

A fantastic opportunity for a bright lawyer to join this thriving London firm to undertake a genuine mix of top quality litigation.

## COMMERCIAL/IP

NQ-2yrs

Dynamic firm seeks ambitious junior lawyer for friendly team - wide range of commercial contracts often involving media/IP clients.

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Partnership

City firm offers an exciting role for a high calibre lawyer establishing and developing a tax team to compliment a thriving corporate dept. Superb package.

## CORPORATE/MEDIA

18mths-3yrs

Rare opportunity in this niche media firm offering a wide range of high quality corporate work (including M&amp;A and venture capital) for high profile media clients.

## COMMERCIAL LIT

1-3 yrs

Excellent career move to progressive medium-sized firm to handle an unusually varied workload including international banking &amp; insolvency litigation. Genuine opportunities for overseas travel.

## TAX/MEDIA

2-5 yrs

Rare opportunity for ambitious tax lawyer seeking good quality of life in popular W. End firm to work on behalf of interesting media clients. Superb prospects.

## KNOW-HOW

To £60K

New role for Employment lawyer 5 yrs + ppe to exchange fee-earning work for support function in a progressive City practice.

## PROPERTY FINANCE

Package + car

New entrepreneurial practice seeks Property Finance lawyer 2-6 yrs ppe to undertake top quality work. Excellent package &amp; prospects.

## INFO. TECHNOLOGY

2-5 yrs

If you are a strong commercial lawyer wishing to specialise in IT law our client, a leader in this field, offers an excellent opportunity to undertake first class quality of work with good training.

## HANTS

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Rare opportunity in this niche media firm offering a wide range of high quality corporate work (including M&amp;A and venture capital) for high profile media clients.

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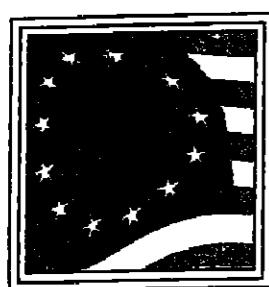
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**KINGSTON**  
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Bank looks to extend seminars nationwide

BY BRIAN COLLETT

SEMINARS introduced by Barclays Bank for small business customers have been extended to the whole of Britain.

The meetings, which were piloted in 1995 and held in a few areas last year, are organised by local branches. The format is left to the individual branch or group of branches, but there is often a speaker or a subject for discussion, followed by an exchange of ideas and networking between participants.

Lorraine Williams, Barclays's manager of small business services, said: "The seminars enhance relationships with the business support organisations and act as a network for those who are starting up — they have been helped by talking to established people who are in the same boat."

Many of the seminars are free, but there is a small charge for those that are expensive to stage — because they have a celebrated speaker, for example.

All the seminars are heavily subsidised by the bank. Some are held during the day and others in the evening. One London group has just started a programme of breakfast meetings.

Douglas Barlsford, head of small business for the Mayfair group of 14 branches, has held two seminars this year so far but is planning one or even two a month for the rest of the year.

His area takes in the West End and the Central London shopping streets, which probably have the greatest concentration of small retail outlets in Britain.

Mr Barlsford said: "We keep the seminars semi-formal so that we can look at a subject important to small business people. They go away more educated, and network afterwards."

He added: "We even find that not everybody is aware of the small business help organisations."

The subjects for the Mayfair seminars include business planning, financial control, tax self-assessment and starting up.

Mr Barlsford has already held one seminar with members of the UK 200 group, the accountancy professionals' body, and is holding two more with them before the end of the year.

# Carving a niche market for the millennium

David Askham  
meets a man  
whose hobby  
became his work

Glyn Mould is a talented young craftsman, based in the East Midlands, who has found a niche market for commemorative village and town signs to mark the millennium.

Carved pictorial village signs were popularised in the 1960s and 1970s by the late Harry Carter, a Norfolk schoolmaster. Mr Mould discovered that many East Anglian originals had deteriorated through lack of maintenance and he was commissioned to restore some.

That led him to market his skills and win orders from parish councils for new original carved village signs. His marketing initiative coincided with the search by many village communities for a suitable souvenir to commemorate the beginning of the new millennium. A carved sign depicting characteristic features of a village's history has much appeal and relevance.

Furthermore, depending on its complexity, a new village or town-signing is usually well within a community budget.

To minimise future maintenance bills, Mr Mould chooses materials carefully. For example, he applies lead capping to top edges, and to the back if a sign is single-sided, to protect his product from the weather. He consults the councils and designs a design for their approval.

Mr Mould has been working



Heart of oak: Glyn Mould carving a new village sign for Stow-cum-Quy, near Cambridge

from his workshop for 15 years and has produced bespoke carving for eminent clients. Commissions have included a family coat of arms for a retired knight of industry, a commemorative plaque for the Shire Horse Society, and restoration work at Burghley House and the Palace of Westminster.

The late Geoffrey Hamilton, presenter of *Gardeners' World*, was so impressed with the decoration of a gazebo in one of his shows that he commissioned Mr Mould to design and carve an oak door for his new porch. Four panels are filled with deep relief pictures of

garden scenes, including many of Mr Hamilton's favourite subjects.

Operating in a workshop in a former village chapel in Woodnewton, Northamptonshire, Mr Mould also trains students. "I teach wood-carving to a wide range of people, male and female, from 12 to 75 years," he said. "Most come to me having never carved wood in their lives and it is rewarding to see the beautiful objects they create."

Many evening class students return year after year. Several are retired and seek a creative activity for their leisure time.

The Enterprise Allowance

Scheme helped to launch his business. He also received help from Cosira (forerunner of the Rural Development Commission), which assisted with exhibitions. Mr Mould also received free advice from a marketing expert assigned by Peterborough Business Link.

"If I succeed with my marketing, the increased volume of work would enable me to hire additional craftsmen. Already I sub-contract some aspects to specialists, such as painters. That leaves me with more time to design and carve the signs."

Glyn Mould is on 01780 470866

Environmental group seeks partnerships with local authorities

BY BRIAN COLLETT

AN ENVIRONMENTAL scheme aimed at employees of small and medium-sized firms in the South London borough of Merton may go nationwide. The Environment Council, a national business organisation that encourages green practices, is receiving backing for the first time from a local authority — Merton Borough Council — for its Conservators at Work scheme.

It now expects to form similar partnerships with other local authorities throughout the country.

Under the scheme, employees are asked to adopt simple environmental procedures such as disposing of oil safely instead of pouring it into a drain, switching off computers when not in use, and keeping heating to a comfortable minimum. Dropping room temperature by one degree Celsius can cut fuel bills by between 6 and 10 per cent.

The scheme is a further indication that small businesses and business advisers are taking environmental issues seriously. Business Pages, the telephone directory publisher, has just produced a guide to environmental issues giving advice for small businesses.

It points out that there is a legal obligation on everyone to dispose of waste in a responsible manner and advises companies to keep waste bagged or in containers that are safe from leakage, theft, vandals, animals and scavengers.

The factsheet says: "It is your responsibility to check that the person handling your waste is authorised to dispose of, treat or store the waste and holds an appropriate licence. If in doubt, check with your local Environment Agency about licensed waste contractors in your area. Breaching duty of care is a criminal offence, with fines of up to

£5,000 from magistrates and unlimited fines in the Crown Court.

A consignment note from the agency is required for the disposal of special wastes such as oils, acids, industrial solvents and pesticides. The Business Pages factsheet is available free on 0171 982 0005.

Also encouraging green attitudes, a new NatWest brochure points out that switching off a personal computer overnight and at weekends could save £180 a year and cut carbon dioxide emissions.

**Personal Computers and Energy**

Management lists measures covering simple maintenance and lighting and computer use, which NatWest says have saved more than £1,000 per branch annually.

**Views on the landfill tax and other possible waste taxation**

to be discussed in a seminar at the annual meeting on September 24 of Waste Watch, the recycling agency partly funded by the Environment Department. Some small businesses are critical of the landfill tax, under which they are charged according to the amount of waste they produce. Ring 0171-248 1818.

The scheme is a further indication that small businesses and business advisers are taking environmental issues seriously. Business Pages, the telephone directory publisher, has just produced a guide to environmental issues giving advice for small businesses.

It points out that there is a legal obligation on everyone to dispose of waste in a responsible manner and advises companies to keep waste bagged or in containers that are safe from leakage, theft, vandals, animals and scavengers.

The factsheet says: "It is your responsibility to check that the person handling your waste is authorised to dispose of, treat or store the waste and holds an appropriate licence. If in doubt, check with your local Environment Agency about licensed waste contractors in your area. Breaching duty of care is a criminal offence, with fines of up to

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IDEAS AND  
INVENTIONS

# The worst day of my career as an umpire

In the second extract from his new autobiography **Dickie Bird** recalls with a shudder the disastrous Saturday of the 1980 Centenary Test at Lord's

**W**hat should have been one of the proudest occasions in my career provided me, instead, with the worst day of my life as an umpire. The date is engraved on my mind — Saturday August 30, 1980, the third day of the Centenary Test between England and Australia at Lord's.

The problems resulted from the fact that on the Friday we had torrential rain. Although we played for most of that Friday, later on the ground was awash as the heavens opened. Spectators were actually diving in and swimming at the Tavern side of the ground.

It was still chucking it down when we arrived early on the Saturday morning, but it finally stopped at about 9.30. The clouds began to part to reveal lovely blue sky, and it was a glorious day from then on. However, it was impossible to resume play before lunch because the lower end of the square down to the Tavern was absolutely saturated. The area was not only wet, but muddy as well, which made it extremely dangerous, and if somebody had been badly injured because we had played on it, everyone would have blamed the umpires.

One way we could have made an earlier start was to put matting on the problem area, and Conn and I suggested this to the two captains, Ian Botham and Greg Chappell. Greg said, "If it will help you two lads to get the game started then I will go along with that," but Both disagreed, believing his players might receive a serious injury if their spikes got caught in the matting. So the idea was scuttled, delaying us further. There was nothing for it but to keep making inspections and hoping that conditions would improve quickly.

Meanwhile, the crowd was becoming more and more restless, and hurled abuse at us, which was very unsettling and slightly unnerving. We bit our tongues, took everything that was thrown at us, and did all in our power to get the game going as soon as we possibly could. Eventually we said to the two captains, "Come on, lads, we can't keep going on like this, we've got to make a start. Let's give it a go in another 15 minutes." Billy Griffith, who was then president of MCC

and a great man for cricket, had been in and out of the dressing-room all day, and he agreed that we should give it a try.

We had just arrived at that decision when the trouble started. It was 3.30 and I thought we had done well to be able to resume play 15 minutes after that, considering the amount of water that had been on the ground.

I was still out in the middle with the groundsman, Jim Fairbrother, when I noticed that there appeared to be a bit of a rumpus around the members' enclosure, although at the time I was not sure what was going on. I walked back into the pavilion a few minutes later with the crowd still shouting abuse at me, but I was never physically assaulted.

I was deeply shocked when I reached the dressing-room and saw the state of David Constant. He was very dishevelled and he was in a state of distress. He told me that he had been grabbed by the tie and pushed and jostled in an ugly scene that was more reminiscent of a football terrace than the members' enclosure at Lord's. He was clearly very dispirited and depressed, and when I heard

his story I felt the same. It hurt me that so much abuse had been directed at me, but even that was nothing compared to what Conn had suffered. We both sat there with tears in our eyes. I have never experienced anything like that anywhere in the world, not even at Headington!

I became angrier still when I read the newspapers the following morning. A typical report claimed, "In the Long Room at Lord's, the temple of cricket, Ian Botham and Dickie Bird were both struck on the head in angry scuffles as frustrated spectators waited for play to begin in the rain-battered Centenary Test."

That is absolute rubbish. I was never struck. I was never manhandled. Nobody came to check the facts with me.

Writing in *The Sunday Times*, Robin Marlar was very critical, and very wrong, alleging, "It is my opinion that the fussiness of the two umpires, Bird and Constant, was wholly responsible for the ugly mood which developed. There was no justification for their concern with the bowlers' run-up at the



The captains and umpires consult — left to right, Botham, Chappell, Bird and Constant

Pavilion End, nor for the area 20 yards towards the Tavern."

Mr Marlar does not know what he is talking about in this instance. Just take note of what the two captains had to say.

First of all, Greg Chappell:

"When we arrived early in the morning for practice, the covers were down on the best part, but elsewhere on the square it was uncovered and very wet. If you had walked on those old wickets you would have been bogged down ankle-deep. It certainly was not fit for play then. We saw it again, with the umpires, at about 3.30, and at that stage it was fairly playable."

He added: "The umpires were keen to start, but I felt we were let down by the groundsmen for not covering the square in advance and not doing enough to dry it out. If there had been more sawdust and more work we could probably have started two hours earlier."

Botham said, "When we first saw it, it was a mudbath, and obviously unplayable for quite some time. At 3.30 the outfield was quite a lot better, but the square was still unfit. It was muddy. Even when we started, a cricket boot still made a heavy impression through the sawdust and mud. You cannot blame the umpires. It was a cock-up and people are trying to make them the scapegoats."

It was Chappell who reported the incident in the members' enclosure to Jack Bailey, the MCC secretary, and pointed out two alleged culprits. However, after taking them to his office, Bailey said he was satisfied that they were either the wrong people, or that nothing serious had taken place. "I am convinced," Bailey said, "that these two people did not assault anybody. At the time members were getting slightly heated and frustrated with waiting. I can only suppose that a lot of them were around and pushing forward."



Constant finds a moment for reflection in the heat of battle

## CENTENARY TEAMS

**ENGLAND**  
Graham Gooch ..... (Essex)  
Geoffrey Boycott ..... (Yorkshire)  
Bill Athey ..... (Yorkshire)  
David Gower ..... (Leicestershire)  
Mike Gatting ..... (Middlesex)  
Ian Botham ..... (Somerset)  
Peter Willey ..... (Northamptonshire)  
David Baird ..... (Yorkshire)  
John Emburey ..... (Middlesex)  
Chris Old ..... (Yorkshire)  
Mike Hendrick ..... (Derbyshire)

**AUSTRALIA**  
Bruce Laird ..... (Western Australia)  
Graeme Wood ..... (Western Australia)  
Greg Chappell ..... (Queensland)  
Kim Hughes ..... (Western Australia)  
Graham Yallop ..... (Victoria)  
Allan Border ..... (New South Wales)  
Rodney Marsh ..... (Western Australia)  
Dennis Lillee ..... (Western Australia)  
Ashley Mallett ..... (South Australia)  
Ray Bright ..... (Victoria)  
Len Pascoe ..... (New South Wales)

get home." I nursed it carefully all the way back to Barnsley and as soon as I got inside my cottage I tore off the wrapping. Inside I found Lillee's official touring tie with a message which read: "Going back to Australia with an open-neck shirt. You can have my tie because you are a great guy and we all think you are a fair umpire." It was signed "Dennis Lillee". Of all my mementoes, that tie and that message are something I treasure as much as anything. It meant so much to me — coming from an Aussie!

If we could turn the clock back, knowing what we know now, Conn and I might well say, this is a very special occasion, so we're going to play, and that's it. If a player gets injured, he gets injured. That's the risk, and we have to take the responsibility. But it was a very sad day all round, and it included the blackest hour of my career.

There was one touching moment after the match when Dennis Lillee came up to me with a parcel. He said: "This is for you, Dickie, but I don't want you to open it until you

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LEICESTER

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This hand from a recent Gold Cup match produced one of the strangest results I have seen for a long time:

Dealer East

North-South game

IMPs

♦A 10 7 6 3  
VK 10 9 8 3  
+5  
+6 3  
+K 9 5 2  
+K 9 8 2  
+J 10 9 7 6 4 2  
+ —

However, say West leads a heart. Declarer wins and plays a spade to the nine. West switches to a trump. Now declarer ruffs a spade leaving himself with K J 8. If East follows small on the second round, declarer is still all right. West is certain to have started with five spades — with four he would have had longer hearts and so responded in that suit. Thus declarer can develop an extra spade by taking ruffing finesses with the queen of hearts. North won and continued clubs which allowed East time to discard the losing spade on a heart. Making 10 seen an excellent result.

In the other room South didn't bid either and when West continued with Two Hearts over Two Clubs East raised to Four Hearts. North understandably started with a high diamond rather than a club and the contract made.

Thus in both rooms North-South passed throughout with Six Diamonds a good contract on their cards. If they manage to get there after East has opened One Club and West has responded One Spade, the fortunate fall of the queen of spades provides the twelfth trick, to go with one heart and ten trump tricks.

## KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

### Last minute

Grandmaster Michael Adams needed to win in the final round of this year's Smith & Williamson British championship at Hove in order to catch up to the leaders and force his way into the play-off. His opponent in this crucial game was grandmaster Tony Kosten. After a quiet opening, Adams succeeded in inflicting wide-ranging pawn weaknesses on the black camp, and then penetrated with a forceful sacrifice of rook for bishop, which Black declined. In spite of this, the crumbling black fortifications were no match for White's invading army. White: Michael Adams

Black: Tony Kosten

Smith & Williamson British championship, August 1997

Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5  
2 Nf3 Nc6  
3 Bb5 a6  
4 Bb4 Nf6  
5 0-0 Be7  
6 Re1 b5  
7 Bb3 0-0  
8 Nf3 Bb7  
9 d3 d6  
10 a3 Qd7  
11 Nc3 Ra5  
12 Nf3 Qd8  
13 Bxf7+ Kxf7  
14 Bc2 Kf8  
15 Nf4 Nf6  
16 c3 Bc6  
17 Bg5 Kf8  
18 Bf5 Nf6  
19 Nf5 Qc7  
20 Bxf6 gxf6  
21 Oxf3 Rg8  
22 g3 Ne6  
23 Kh2 Ng5  
24 Oe3 Rg8  
25 a4 Rxa4  
26 Rxa4 Rg8

Diagram of final position

City chess challenge

On Thursday September 18 at the Chartered Accountants Hall, Moorgate Place, London EC2, I shall be giving a charity chess display against a maximum of 50 opponents in aid of the Lord Mayor's Appeal for the Cancer Research Campaign. The event will be opened by The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor Alderman Sir Roger Cork at 4.30pm. To secure your table please call the organiser Michael Savory of Midland Stockbrokers, Mariner House, Pepys Street, London EC3N 4DA (tel: 0171-260 5051, fax 0171-260 0592).

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## COMPANY GOLF DAYS RESULTS

The four top scorers in the individual Stableford competition played for the company golf days listed below now comprise the company eight-strong team for the regional final.

Mees Pierson

Date	Company name	Venue	Score
3 AUG	PREBON YANMAR	THE HERTFORDSHIRE	138
7 AUG	MARSH & NICELLA LTD	CHART HILLS	158
14 AUG	CITY ELECTRICAL FACTORS LTD	WOOLTON	146
14 AUG	SOMERFIELD STORES PLC	DRE MANOR	141
19 AUG	EAGLE STAR LIFE INSURANCE CO LTD	LADYBANK	133
20 AUG	APOLLO HOME ENTERTAINMENT	ST GEORGES HILL	155
22 AUG	TELFORD POLICE GOLF SOCIETY	LILLESHALL HALL	149
22 AUG	WORLDCRAFT & BELLSHILL AIRPORT	AIRPORT	138
23 AUG	BRITISH AIRWAYS MAINTENANCE CARDIFF	ALICE SPRINGS	153
26 AUG	DATECH 2000	LEATHERHEAD	154
26 AUG	DFDS TRANSPORT LIMITED	DUNFERMLINE	126
27 AUG	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU LTD	PENRITH	146
28 AUG	PRUDENTIAL UK	ARMY	146
29 AUG	ALLEN & OVERY	HOLYWOOD	129
29 AUG	BOO STOT HAYWARD	CHELMSFORD	125
29 AUG	LBORERS LIVERPOOL	WALLACE	147
29 AUG	VOLKSWAGEN UK LIMITED	MENTMORE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	146
29 AUG	LAWSON HARRISON STAR LTD	WORFIELD	142
29 AUG	NATIONAL SEMICONDUCTOR (UK) LTD	LETHAM GRANGE	138
29 AUG	BLUE CIRCLE INDUSTRIES PLC	THE STONE	135
29 AUG	ROYAL & SUN ALLIANCE	LOCKHURST	130

Date	Company name	Venue	Score
29 AUG	NORWOOD INTERIORS	BRADLEY HALL	130
29 AUG	PAULL & WILLIAMS	DUKE'S COURSE	122
29 AUG	IC RUMBLE PLUMBING & HEATING LTD	ABBOFTLEY	116
29 AUG	OCE	CELTIC MANOR	105
30 AUG	THE WOODEN SPOON SOCIETY	WALTON HALL	145
30 AUG	NUCLEAR ELECTRIC	SECKFORD HALL	130
31 AUG	THE WOODEN SPOON SOCIETY	WALTON HALL	146
1 SEP	PRUDENTIAL - BACHE INTERNATIONAL LTD	EAST SUSSEX NATIONAL	156
1 SEP	FRODSHAM GOLF CHILDREN'S CHARITY	FRODSHAM	155
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2 SEP	IBC GROUP PLC	FOXHILLS	133
2 SEP	NAT WEST MORTGAGE SERVICES	HILL VALLEY	122
3 SEP	NSG SERVICES GROUP PLC	NORTHOP COUNTRY PARK	146
3 SEP	P GALLAGHER	WYCHWOOD	135

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## WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

**AZOTEA**  
a. An Aztec pyramid  
b. A flat roof  
c. Without roots

**CURARA**  
a. A canoe  
b. A deadly poison  
c. Matron in a nunnery

RACING: OWNER OF BOSRA SHAM BACKS NEWMARKET CLASSICS IN THREE-YEAR DEAL

# Wafic Said to sponsor Guineas

By RICHARD EVANS  
RACING CORRESPONDENT

A MULTIMILLION-POUND sponsorship deal covering the Guineas meeting at Newmarket until the year 2000 will be announced today involving an investment company chaired by Wafic Said, owner of Bosra Sham and Lady Cara.

Said is the major shareholder and chairman of London-based Sagitta Asset Management Ltd, which has stepped in to back the opening two classics of the season — along with the Jockey Club Stakes — for the next three years.

Sagitta Asset Management is a private company which provides its international clients with investment management and administration. The Sagitta Group has more than US\$1 billion in its care.

Said, who has become one of the principal players in



Bosra Sham, second right, leads home the field in last year's 1,000 Guineas carrying the colours of Wafic Said

international racing, has fond memories of Newmarket after the success of Bosra Sham last year in the 1,000 Guineas and Champion Stakes, and he is relishing the opportunity of backing one of racing's most important meetings.

"My personal passion for racing extends to my involvement as an owner, so I am particularly thrilled that a company with which I am associated is sponsoring such an historic British race meeting," he said yesterday.

Apart from providing substantial prize-money for what will be known as the Sagitta Guineas Festival, I understand Sagitta is keen to come up with special bonuses, possibly for trainers and jockeys who manage to win both the classics. The three-year package will include the Guineas meeting in 2000, which will coincide with the opening of a

new grandstand on the Rowley Mile course.

Moving on to another classic, André Fabre, who won the St Leger with Toulon in 1991, yesterday issued a cautionary note to backers convinced he can repeat the feat at Doncaster on Sunday.

"He's a good horse who is fresh and in good shape. My only fear about the Arc is that it could be run on heavy ground and I would prefer a good surface," Fabre said.

Fabre has won the Arc three times with Tremplino (1987), Subticia (1992) and Carnegie (1994), but he believes Peintre

promises to be an important weekend for Fabre, for 24 hours after Tremplino, he saddles Peintre Celebre, the highly impressive winner of the French Derby, for the Prix du Jockey, one of three Arc trials at Longchamp on Sunday.

"He's a good horse who is

fresh and in good shape. My only fear about the Arc is that it could be run on heavy ground and I would prefer a good surface," Fabre said.

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Celebre compares favourably with Tremplino "because of his acceleration", Peintre Celebre is 5-1 second favourite with most bookmakers for the Arc and makes considerable appeal given that Heliosio — 3-1 favourite to repeat last year's success — did not impress everyone in the Prix du Moulin on Sunday.

Bruno Ridoux, racing manager to Enrique Sarasola, owner of Heliosio, confirmed yesterday that Cash Amsussen will not be riding the four-year-old in the Arc "Ever since the Grand Prix de Saint-

Cloud, Elle Lellooue (trainer of Heliosio) did not want him on the horse again. He's a fabulous jockey but not for Heliosio."

Among the favourites to replace Amsussen is Dominique Bœuf, who rode Heliosio in his early races but was replaced after being blamed for the horse's defeat in last year's French Derby.

□ Arlington International Racecourse, which was re-opened with high hopes in 1989, has withdrawn its application for racing dates in 1998 to "explore other options".

9.40 EBF NUTFIELD MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (Div II: 2-Y-O: £2,319. 71) (17)

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2. (1) BALINTON 9 F 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

3. (2) CLOUDS 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

4. (3) FAIR SONIA 9 F 6-11 R. Pfeiffer 100

5. (4) FIVE FATHOMS 9 F 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

6. (5) GOLDEN 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

7. (6) HESTON 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

8. (7) HORSEY STORM 10 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

9. (8) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

10. (9) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

11. (10) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

12. (11) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

13. (12) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

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20. (19) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

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66. (65) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

67. (66) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

68. (67) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

69. (68) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

70. (69) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

71. (70) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

72. (71) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

73. (72) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

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76. (75) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

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78. (77) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

79. (78) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

80. (79) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

81. (80) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

82. (81) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

83. (82) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

84. (83) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

85. (84) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

86. (85) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

87. (86) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

88. (87) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

89. (88) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

90. (89) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

91. (90) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

92. (91) KENIANA 9 Mts 6-11 T. Sorensen 100

9

## TENNIS

# Maclagan avenges Davis Cup reverse

BY ALEX RAMSAY

AS THE Samsung Open eased quietly into life in Bournemouth yesterday, Greg Rusedski was still cruising at 35,000 feet on his way back from New York. It is about 3,000 miles from Flushing Meadows to Bournemouth, where the total fund is \$400,000 (around £250,000), only a fraction more than Rusedski received on Sunday night after losing to Patrick Rafter.

The switch from the razzmatazz of the Big Apple, the packed 23,000-seater Arthur Ashe Stadium and the speed of the court to the genteel surroundings of the West Hants club — where the centre court can accommodate a mere 2,800 spectators and the clay surface is likely to remove much of the sting from the Rusedski service — will be difficult even for one whose stature and ranking has improved so much this year.

Rusedski is the man the public wants to see. Since the weekend and the realisation that the new British No 1 could



Maclagan in the swing at Bournemouth yesterday, where he made a nonsense of the rankings by defeating Wayne Black, of Zimbabwe

go all the way in the US Open, ticket sales on the South Coast have taken a healthy upturn and there have been endless inquiries concerning Rusedski's opening match. Win or lose against Alberto Martin tomorrow, the crowd will forgive Rusedski anything.

With Tim Henman missing

the tournament for the second year in succession — last season he was injured, this year he prefers to sample the delights of Tashkent rather than risk his reputation on a clay court — Rusedski is the man of the moment.

For all the gibes about Rusedski's Canadian origins, he has done more than his share to promote the British game. He has turned out for home tournaments, committed himself to the Davis Cup and has been a regular at the British national championships in Telford since he was adopted by the Lawn Tennis Association in 1995.

Rusedski is the man the public wants to see. Since the weekend and the realisation that the new British No 1 could

be No 4, was a finalist at Wimbledon. The No 2 seed is Felix Mantilla, the world No 14, who has won four titles on clay this year.

Rusedski leads a five-strong British contingent, one of whom, Miles Maclagan, was in action yesterday, making his way into the second round with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-0 win over Wayne Black, from Zimbabwe. Early on, the match was

strenuous with errors, but Maclagan ironed out most of them and was in total command during the third set.

Black, who together with his brother, Byron, ended Britain's hopes of promotion in the Davis Cup in April, has jumped up the rankings over the last six months to stand at No 115 while Maclagan is 184 places behind him at No 297. However, Maclagan, too,

has been moving in the right direction recently, even if the improvement has not gained the same attention accorded to Rusedski.

"It's a bit like them and us I suppose," he said. "At the moment Greg and Tim are in different worlds from the rest of us. But myself, Andrew Richardson, Janice Delgado — we all knew Tim in the juniors and we knew what he was like

and what has happened since. So, you never know..."

Maclagan will be joined in the second round by at least one more Briton as Mark Peitchey and Danny Sapsford play each other today.

Chris Wilkinson, who opted

to play a satellite event rather than even try to qualify for the US Open, faces a qualifier, Alastair Hunt, from New Zealand, in the first round.

Leeds Rhinos ..... 42

Oldham Bears ..... 16

## RUGBY LEAGUE

## Rhinos pick up the scent

Leeds Rhinos ..... 42

Oldham Bears ..... 16

LEEDS recovered from a dismal start against Oldham last night to score eight tries and earn a trip to Wigan in the quarter-finals of the Super League Premiership Trophy (a Correspondent writes). Oldham bowed out with a spirited performance, but in the end they were outplayed by a side rarely out of second gear.

Relegated Oldham, without seven of their regular team, surprised the Rhinos with a fifth-minute try by the full-back, Atchison, converted by Maloney. Ranson missed a try-scoring chance and Leeds were stung into action. Tries by Lawford and Cummins put them in front and from then on, Oldham crumbled, tries by Masella and Rivett early in the second half stretching the lead to 20-6.

Oldham had two more acts to play — tries by Leulua and Hill — but Leeds, through Fleary, Holroyd, Newton and Blackmore, answered with four more.

SCORERS: Leeds Rhinos: Tries: Lawford, Masella, Cummins, Fleary, Holroyd, Blackmore. Goals: Hanson (6). Oldham Bears: Tries: Atchison, Leulua, Hill, Goals: Maloney (2). LEEDS RHINOS: Tries: Lawford, Masella, Cummins, Ranson, Leulua, Hill, Goals: Maloney (2). OLDHAM BEARS: Tries: Atchison, Leulua, Hill, J. Cowen, S. Ranson, F. Maloney, P. Deacon, G. Lord, J. Terni, J. McGrory, J. Fleary, D. Holroyd, D. Newton, G. Blackmore, R. Myler, D. Goss, A. Leulua, J. McNicholas. Referee: J Connolly

FOOTBALL SCOTTISH  
Leading C  
league o

Pedersen seizes  
chance with Bla

## CRICKET: CHAMPIONSHIP SECURED AGAIN AS RUN-RATE PROVES BEYOND BEDFORDSHIRE

## Devon answer Roebuck's challenge

BY MICHAEL AUSTIN

LUTON (final day of two): Devon beat Bedfordshire on superior run-rate

IN WINNING the Minor Counties championship for an unprecedented fourth consecutive season, Devon overcame a spirited second-day revival by Bedfordshire, who have not succeeded in taking a title for 25 years.

The match, a fine advertisement for cricket at this level, was given new life by Devon struggling to 99 for six in their second innings and Peter Roebuck setting a sporting victory target of 278 from 67 overs. Devon's win was on higher overall run-rate, Bedfordshire finishing 27 short of the required total yesterday.

To some, Roebuck's declaration may have seemed challenging with Bedfordshire having been restricted to 119 for nine on the first day, but this modest total on an awkward pitch contradicted their impressive run-making this season.

The sun-baked surface eased and Bedfordshire reverted to batting excellence, though not perfection as they fell short in an exciting finale

after needing 122 from the final 20 overs.

After Richard Dalton, a former captain of the England indoor team, had restricted Devon with five for 43, Wayne Larkins and Andy Roberts frustrated their attack with an opening stand of 92 in 30 overs.

Larkins skied a catch to deep cover after completing a half-century and finishing with 865 championship runs this season, to add to his 1,024 last summer.

ROEBUCK: Peter Roebuck

TON HEVEZ



Donohue attempts to sweep during the Devon second innings

gathered momentum against miserly bowling.

David Mercer lofted a catch and Roebuck, the man of the match, dismissed Chris Bullen and Dalton for a duck, in successive balls. Dalton, 32, had already played admirably for Minor Counties in the Benson and Hedges Cup this season, winning the gold award against Worcestershire, and his nagging bowling yielded the prize wicket of Roebuck, when he held a stinging return catch.

He also bowled Keith Donohue, the top scorer with 45, and Paul Warren in the same over to foreshadow the Devon declaration. Unlike in the first innings, their batsmen had played sketchy strokes and only the partnership of 77 in 29 overs for the seventh wicket between Donohue and Chris Read, the England Under-19 wicket-keeper, sustained the innings and added steel to the victory charge.

□ The draw for the first and second rounds of the NatWest Trophy next year has been delayed because of the present uncertainty surrounding the future structure of domestic cricket. It will now be made on September 15.

## Montgomerie follows in Boon's footsteps to thwart Durham

BY RICHARD HOBSON

NORTHAMPTON (Durham won toss): Northamptonshire (4pts) beat Durham by five wickets

DAVID BOON, the Durham captain, has never shirked an issue. His address to the team after the 106-run defeat against Leicestershire on Sunday was "short and to the point", according to one colleague, but it did not quite have the effect desired.

Chastised they may have been, but Durham yesterday still squandered a good opportunity to beat county opposition away from home for the first time in any competition since August 1995. Northamptonshire climbed two places to tenth in the Axa Life League, but Durham remain second from bottom and Alan Walker kicked over a stump in disappointment after Tim Walton had struck him for the winning boundary with an over to spare.

The Durham total of 185 for six on a slow pitch seemed reasonable enough. The home side subsided to 118 for five, but Walton, dropped by Wood on 25, and Richard Montgomerie added 68 in ten overs in an unbroken sixth-wicket partnership.

Montgomerie, who has endured a lean season, finished with 86 from 113 balls, his best score in this competition.

There are times when Durham have performed as though they were proud to defend the wooden spoon. Here, though, they fielded diligently and, despite the absence of Brown, their best bowler, because of a side injury, offered no width until the closing stages.

A sombre mood pervaded around the Wantage Road ground, less than ten miles from the Spencer family home in Althorpe. Earl Spencer is a patron of the Northamptonshire club and the fixture had been postponed eight days earlier as a mark of respect, after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. The county flag flew at half-mast.

Northamptonshire, who had beaten Derbyshire convincingly 24 hours earlier, could take further encouragement from the performance here of Graeme Swann, a teenager. Swann scored a century for the England under-19 side last month, but, on the evidence of this match, he may prove more useful

as an off spinner. He looped the ball confidently and turned it significantly, and was not flattered by figures of two for 29 from eight overs. His victims, Hutton and Weston, were both caught by Tim Michael Barnaby Bailey, the young wicketkeeper.

Bailey quickly gauged the demands of the surface and hit just four in his unbroken 54 from 70 balls. Montgomerie's innings was just as shrewdly paced. He remained at the crease throughout the reply and reached the boundary just four times.

Walton was more aggressive, driving Walker for successive boundaries during an over that yielded 11 runs to bring the requirement down to 32 from five. He and Montgomerie then chipped away before taking 12 runs from the penultimate over.

Mohammad Akram has flown to Toronto to join the Pakistan team for the Sahara Cup. He will not return to Northamptonshire, who are likely to re-sign Anil Kumble, the India leg spinner, if Shane Warne, the Australian, turns down their offer for next season.

## YESTERDAY'S SCOREROARDS

## Axa Life League

NORTHAMPTON (Durham won toss): Northamptonshire beat Bedfordshire by five wickets

BEDFORDSHIRE

1 J Morris, 2 B. B. Morris, 3 B. B. Morris, 4 B. B. Morris, 5 B. B. Morris, 6 B. B. Morris, 7 B. B. Morris, 8 B. B. Morris, 9 B. B. Morris, 10 B. B. Morris, 11 B. B. Morris, 12 B. B. Morris, 13 B. B. Morris, 14 B. B. Morris, 15 B. B. Morris, 16 B. B. Morris, 17 B. B. Morris, 18 B. B. Morris, 19 B. B. Morris, 20 B. B. Morris, 21 B. B. Morris, 22 B. B. Morris, 23 B. B. Morris, 24 B. B. Morris, 25 B. B. Morris, 26 B. B. Morris, 27 B. B. Morris, 28 B. B. Morris, 29 B. B. Morris, 30 B. B. Morris, 31 B. B. Morris, 32 B. B. Morris, 33 B. B. Morris, 34 B. B. Morris, 35 B. B. Morris, 36 B. B. Morris, 37 B. B. Morris, 38 B. B. Morris, 39 B. B. Morris, 40 B. B. Morris, 41 B. B. Morris, 42 B. B. Morris, 43 B. B. Morris, 44 B. B. Morris, 45 B. B. Morris, 46 B. B. Morris, 47 B. B. Morris, 48 B. B. Morris, 49 B. B. Morris, 50 B. B. Morris, 51 B. B. Morris, 52 B. B. Morris, 53 B. B. Morris, 54 B. B. Morris, 55 B. B. Morris, 56 B. B. Morris, 57 B. B. Morris, 58 B. B. Morris, 59 B. B. Morris, 60 B. B. Morris, 61 B. B. Morris, 62 B. B. Morris, 63 B. B. Morris, 64 B. B. Morris, 65 B. B. Morris, 66 B. B. Morris, 67 B. B. Morris, 68 B. B. Morris, 69 B. B. Morris, 70 B. B. Morris, 71 B. B. Morris, 72 B. B. Morris, 73 B. B. Morris, 74 B. B. Morris, 75 B. B. Morris, 76 B. B. Morris, 77 B. B. Morris, 78 B. B. Morris, 79 B. B. Morris, 80 B. B. Morris, 81 B. B. Morris, 82 B. B. Morris, 83 B. B. Morris, 84 B. B. Morris, 85 B. B. Morris, 86 B. B. Morris, 87 B. B. Morris, 88 B. B. Morris, 89 B. B. Morris, 90 B. B. Morris, 91 B. B. Morris, 92 B. B. Morris, 93 B. B. Morris, 94 B. B. Morris, 95 B. B. Morris, 96 B. B. Morris, 97 B. B. Morris, 98 B. B. Morris, 99 B. B. Morris, 100 B. B. Morris, 101 B. B. Morris, 102 B. B. Morris, 103 B. B. Morris, 104 B. B. Morris, 105 B. B. Morris, 106 B. B. Morris, 107 B. B. Morris, 108 B. B. Morris, 109 B. B. Morris, 110 B. B. Morris, 111 B. B. Morris, 112 B. B. Morris, 113 B. B. Morris, 114 B. B. Morris, 115 B. B. Morris, 116 B. B. Morris, 117 B. B. Morris, 118 B. B. Morris, 119 B. B. Morris, 120 B. B. Morris, 121 B. B. Morris, 122 B. B. Morris, 123 B. B. Morris, 124 B. B. Morris, 125 B. B. Morris, 126 B. B. Morris, 127 B. B. Morris, 128 B. B. Morris, 129 B. B. Morris, 130 B. B. Morris, 131 B. B. Morris, 132 B. B. Morris, 133 B. B. Morris, 134 B. B. Morris, 135 B. B. Morris, 136 B. B. Morris, 137 B. B. Morris, 138 B. B. Morris, 139 B. B. Morris, 140 B. B. Morris, 141 B. B. Morris, 142 B. B. Morris, 143 B. B. Morris, 144 B. B. Morris, 145 B. B. Morris, 146 B. B. Morris, 147 B. B. Morris, 148 B. B. Morris, 149 B. B. Morris, 150 B. B. Morris, 151 B. B. Morris, 152 B. B. Morris, 153 B. B. Morris, 154 B. B. Morris, 155 B. B. Morris, 156 B. B. Morris, 157 B. B. Morris, 158 B. B. Morris, 159 B. B. Morris, 160 B. B. Morris, 161 B. B. Morris, 162 B. B. Morris, 163 B. B. Morris, 164 B. B. Morris, 165 B. B. Morris, 166 B. B. Morris, 167 B. B. Morris, 168 B. B. Morris, 169 B. B. Morris, 170 B. B. Morris, 171 B. B. Morris, 172 B. B. Morris, 173 B. B. Morris, 174 B. B. Morris, 175 B. B. Morris, 176 B. B. Morris, 177 B. B. Morris, 178 B. B. Morris, 179 B. B. Morris, 180 B. B. Morris, 181 B. B. Morris, 182 B. B. Morris, 183 B. B. Morris, 184 B. B. Morris, 185 B. B. Morris, 186 B. B. Morris, 187 B. B. Morris, 188 B. B. Morris, 189 B. B. Morris, 190 B. B. Morris, 191 B. B. Morris, 192 B. B. Morris, 193 B. B. Morris, 194 B. B. Morris, 195 B. B. Morris, 196 B. B. Morris, 197 B. B. Morris, 198 B. B. Morris, 199 B. B. Morris, 200 B. B. Morris, 201 B. B. Morris, 202 B. B. Morris, 203 B. B. Morris, 204 B. B. Morris, 205 B. B. Morris, 206 B. B. Morris, 207 B. B. Morris, 208 B. B. Morris, 209 B. B. Morris, 210 B. B. Morris, 211 B. B. Morris, 212 B. B. Morris, 213 B. B. Morris, 214 B. B. Morris, 215 B. B. Morris, 216 B. B. Morris, 217 B. B. Morris, 218 B. B. Morris, 219 B. B. Morris, 220 B. B. Morris, 221 B. B. Morris, 222 B. B. Morris, 223 B. B. Morris, 224 B. B. Morris, 225 B. B. Morris, 226 B. B. Morris, 227 B. B. Morris, 228 B. B. Morris, 229 B. B. Morris, 230 B. B. Morris, 231 B. B. Morris, 232 B. B. Morris, 233 B. B. Morris, 234 B. B. Morris, 235 B. B. Morris, 236 B. B. Morris, 237 B. B. Morris, 238 B. B. Morris, 239 B. B. Morris, 240 B. B. Morris, 241 B. B. Morris, 242 B. B. Morris, 243 B. B. Morris, 244 B. B. Morris, 245 B. B. Morris, 246 B. B. Morris, 247 B. B. Morris, 248 B. B. Morris, 249 B. B. Morris, 250 B. B. Morris, 251 B. B. Morris, 252 B. B. Morris, 253 B. B. Morris, 254 B. B. Morris, 255 B. B. Morris, 256 B. B. Morris, 257 B. B. Morris, 258 B. B. Morris, 259 B. B. Morris, 260 B. B. Morris, 261 B. B. Morris, 262 B. B. Morris, 263 B. B. Morris, 264 B. B. Morris, 265 B. B. Morris, 266 B. B. Morris, 267 B. B. Morris, 268 B. B. Morris, 269 B. B. Morris, 270 B. B. Morris, 271 B. B. Morris, 272

## FOOTBALL: SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION IN BREAKAWAY

# Leading clubs to form league of their own

By KEVIN McCARRA

THE ten clubs that constitute the premier division of the Scottish Football League (SFL) tendered their resignations yesterday and announced that they intend to form a new league, run under the auspices of the Scottish Football Association (SFA), which will start next season.

A press conference today is to provide fuller details of a scheme that will echo the FA Premier League in England, which started in 1992. That remained a link, through the system of relegation, with the clubs that were left behind in the Football League. A similar settlement is likely in Scotland.

Although an earlier attempt to break with the existing structure in Scotland collapsed in 1993, financial motives are stronger now. The present television contracts and the sponsorship deals with Bell's and Coca-Cola expire next summer.

The SFL does not accept that significant sums are being drained away by the smaller clubs. At the moment, the ten members of the premier division receive 87 per cent

of the television rights. "They cannot have any more of the cake," Peter Donald, the secretary of the SFL, said, "because they already have almost all of it, and the cream as well." Nonetheless, a report commissioned from Deloitte & Touche, the accountancy consultants, has persuaded the prominent clubs that a separate league would be lucrative.

Only the means of having it legitimised by the SFA remains in doubt. John McBeth, vice-president of the SFA and a director of Clyde, the Bell's League second division club, said: "The SFA would have little option to accept them, so long as they are not breaking an agreement with the other members of the Scottish Football League. If they lack that blessing, then they have a problem."

The brief comments made by the premier division clubs suggest that they seek consensus rather than conflict. "Our proposal will be good for Scottish football as a whole," Lex Gold, the chairman of Hibernian, said. "If they are to win their freedom, he and his counterparts may have to pay compensation to the clubs left behind."

"So long as the clubs who have tendered their resignation can offer security to the others, there may be little or no resistance," Donald said. Two years' notice of resignation is supposed to be given, but the management committee has the right to waive that condition. Six of its 12 members come from the premier division and the president of the SFL, Doug Smith, of Dundee United, could exercise his casting vote in favour of the breakaway clubs. The committee next meets on September 18.

Of greater significance is rule 51 of the SFL, which states that the players of clubs who have resigned become the property of the SFL. Donald, in theory, would thus be able to sell off every premier division player, including men such as Paul Gascoigne and Brian Laudrup.

## Pedersen seizes second chance with Blackburn

By DAVID MADDOCK

BLACKBURN Rovers yesterday completed the £500,000 signing of Tore Pedersen, much to the relief of their manager, Roy Hodgson, who has spent the past two months attempting to bring the Norway defender to Lancashire. Pedersen signed a four-year contract after Blackburn had finally agreed the fee with Saint Pauli, his German club.

Pedersen had an extended trial with Oldham Athletic in 1994 but before he could sign permanently he was damaged, cruciate ligaments had been out of football for almost a year. "It was the worst moment of my career," he said yesterday. "I was injured in an FA Cup quarter-final against Bolton and I thought that was the end of any chance I would ever get in England. I also

missed out on the World Cup finals after I had played all ten qualifying games."

Fausto Asprilla, the Newcastle United forward, has escaped punishment from Uefa after being cited for a foul by the match observer during the second Champions' League qualifying match against Croatia Zagreb.

Middlesbrough have ordered Fabrizio Ravanelli to return to the club. The Italy striker went home last week, apparently to join up with the national team for international duty, but did not make the final squad. Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, has made it clear that the centre forward will no longer figure in his first-team plans and has indicated that he is willing to sell him.

## Irwin offers worldly wisdom

FROM RUSSELL KEMPSON  
IN VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

EVEN if Ireland lose against Lithuania here in the shabby Valgiris Stadium tomorrow, a result that would leave their chances of reaching the World Cup finals hanging by a thread, Denis Irwin can still contemplate another campaign in the sport's premier competition. At 31, the quiet yet ultra-dependable Manchester United defender has a few more years of international combat ahead of him.

Not so Ray Houghton, 35, Andy Townsend, 34, and Tony Cascarino, 35, who have entered the twilight "veteran" zone and are unlikely to be involved again at the highest level. Unless, that is, Ireland can beat Lithuania, which would almost guarantee them second place in group eight and take them into the play-offs.

"I'm sure I'm good for one more World Cup, maybe two," Irwin

said yesterday as he relaxed at Ireland's rural training camp on the outskirts of the city. "Perhaps it's a last chance for the likes of Ray and Tony, perhaps it's what they're thinking, and that's why the game here is so important."

Houghton, because of injury, and Townsend, because of suspen-



Irwin: set to return

sion, will not be able to influence the outcome this evening but Irwin should return after a two-match absence to win his 46th cap. He will replace Jeff Kenna, who is also suspended, and still has fond memories of Ireland's participation in the United States three years ago.

"You can't bear playing in the World Cup finals," Irwin said. "It's the aim of every player to play at the top of his profession; it's the best stage of all. When you've done it once, you obviously want more of it."

Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, has similar experience — he captained his country during the 1990 finals in Italy — and he is optimistic, especially after the 4-2 win in Iceland on Saturday, of at least qualifying for the two-leg play-off later this year. "I think we'll reach them, which would be a great achievement," he said. "We'll just have to see what happens then."

Although King William's faults were no surprise, Muir, the runner-up two years ago on Maisy Brown, had not expected Davidson, lying second, to make a mistake on Heyday, his Olympic team silver medal-winner. "I'm just thrilled for my horse," she said. "He's always been knocking at the door, but he's never really had a big win."

The striking grey gelding, 13,

has had three clear rounds at Badminton, finishing ninth last year, but Muir, 34, decided to drop him to three-star events this year. "He's much happier at this level," she said. "He was always struggling at four-star events. He's not a great galloping machine."

King William, who displayed his gallop to breathtaking effect in the cross country on Sunday, has also been dropped a level, but for different reasons. "He hates the atmosphere in the arena at Badminton — it's his nerves which make him knock so many jumps down there," King said.

She had thought that the quieter atmosphere at Blenheim would help him, and had her hopes raised when he was clear until fence 10. "I decided to let him run on them in order to set him up for the final line," King said. The plan failed when King William hit fences 10, 11a and 12.

Despite finishing third, King is the new leader in the world rider rankings. "He [King William] gave me a fabulous ride on

Sunday — he doesn't owe me anything," she said.

The postponement of the showjumping until yesterday because of the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, meant a smaller crowd than usual. The atmosphere was subdued further by the death of the Irish rider, Samuel Moore, on Sunday after he fell at fence 19. The remaining four Irish riders withdrew from the showjumping. All riders wore black armbands yesterday.

Alan Oliver's 13-fence course proved more difficult than it looked and clear rounds were at a premium. Mark Todd, of New Zealand, the dual Olympic champion, dropped from fifth to eighth place after incurring ten faults on the young Word for Word.

Tracey Dillon, so impressive in the cross country, moved from fourth to twelfth with 15 penalties on Joe's Surprise, but Ian Stark, of Great Britain, underlined the impact of a clear round when he moved up from thirteenth to fifth place on The Moose.

## Muir clears the rest aside to break through at Blenheim

By JENNY MACARTHUR

PADDY MUIR, the daughter of a Cleveland farmer, gained the biggest success of her career when she and her home-bred Archie Brown won The Blenheim Vauxhall Monterey International Horse Trials yesterday after completing one of only seven clear rounds in the showjumping.

Mary King, who had led the three-day event from the start, dropped to third place — behind Bruce Davidson, of the United States, on Heyday — when King William, displaying his customary disdain for this phase, had three fences down, incurring 15 penalties.

Although King William's faults were no surprise, Muir, the runner-up two years ago on Maisy Brown, had not expected Davidson, lying second, to make a mistake on Heyday, his Olympic team silver medal-winner. "I'm just thrilled for my horse," she said. "He's always been knocking at the door, but he's never really had a big win."

The striking grey gelding, 13,

## FOR THE RECORD

**FOOTBALL**  
National League  
Second division  
WIGAN (1) 3 WREXHAM (0) 2  
O'Connell 36 (2) 57 82  
Lowe 73 (pen)

**Third division**  
COLCHESTER (1) 3 BRIGHTON (0) 1  
Burke 47 (3) 57 81  
Abrams 49

**DIMARTENS LEAGUE** Premier division:  
Nuneaton 3 Bath 3; Worcester City 2  
Sutton Coldfield 2; Shrewsbury 1

**LEAGUE** Premier division:  
Luton 4 Garsington 1; Northampton 4  
Luton Cup 1st round: Shrewsbury 1  
Worcester 1; Northampton 2nd round:  
Luton 1

**BANKERS' BREWERY LEAGUE** Premier division:  
Cardiff Town v Wolverhampton

**JEWSOON WESSER LEAGUE** 1st division:  
Luton 3 Bury 2; Coventry 1; Luton 1  
Luton Cup 1st round: Coventry 1; Luton 1

**UNIET SUESS COUNTY LEAGUE** First division:  
Atherton Colliery v Prescot Cables  
Birkenhead 1; Wrexham 1; Oldham 1

**PARIS** European championships: Final  
Italy 4 Holland 2. Final positions: 1. Italy;  
2. Holland; 3. Spain; 4. France; 5. Portugal;  
6. Germany; 7. Czechoslovakia; 8. Italy;  
9. France; 10. Germany; 11. Ukraine; 12.  
Slovenia.

**PARIS** European championships: Final  
Italy 4 Holland 2. Final positions: 1. Italy;  
2. Holland; 3. Spain; 4. France; 5. Portugal;  
6. Germany; 7. Czechoslovakia; 8. Italy;  
9. France; 10. Germany; 11. Ukraine; 12.  
Slovenia.

**AP'S TWO COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP** Final  
Bromsgrove 10 Colchester 12; Bromsgrove  
75 Ferndown 10; Bromsgrove 76

**YORKSHIRE LEAGUE** York 120 Harrogate  
121-0 (handicap are champions)

**AP'S THREE COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP** Final  
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AMERICAN FOOTBALL: DRUCKENMILLER STEPS IN TO LEAD SAN FRANCISCO TO VICTORY

# 49ers unearth golden prospect

By OLIVER HOLT

IT WAS not a flawless start and the name has not quite the same ring to it as Joe Montana or Steve Young, but on Sunday, San Francisco 49ers supporters were given their first glimpse of the player who is being tipped by many to become the franchise's leading star.

Jim Druckenmiller, the young quarterback who the 49ers gave the honour of being their No 1 pick from the college draft in the summer, completed only ten of his 28 passes on his National Football League (NFL) debut against St Louis Rams and threw three interceptions in a sloppy, scrappy game. But Druckenmiller, who was playing only because Young is suffering from yet another concussion and his back-up, Jeff Brohm, has a broken finger on his throwing hand, shrugged those reverses off to throw the two touchdowns that took the 49ers to a 15-12 win in the Trans World Dome.

Results 45

in St Louis and gave Steve Mariucci, the new San Francisco coach, his first win.

The victory and Druckenmiller's courage in adversity came as a timely boost for the 49ers, a rare sign of the promise of youth in a team that has increasingly seemed to be dominated by injuries to its veteran star players. Young tottered from concussion to concussion last season and last week San Francisco lost their wide receiver, Jerry Rice, for the rest of the season with a knee injury.

Young's problems, and the team's failure to reach the Super Bowl last season after their play-off defeat to Green Bay Packers, led to speculation that the 49ers might replace him with Elvin Grbac this season. Grbac, however, was traded to Kansas City Chiefs, and Druckenmiller brought in to be groomed as the long-term replacement instead. Druckenmiller's showing on Sunday, though, hinted that he may bring pressure to bear on Young sooner rather than later.



Farr and Jones, of St Louis Rams, combine to block Floyd, the 49ers running back. Photograph: Stephen Dunn/Allsport

In terms of quarterback performances on the NFL's second Sunday, however, Druckenmiller was outshone by Drew Bledsoe, of New England Patriots, who threw four touchdown passes for the second week in succession as his team overran Indianapolis Colts 31-6.

The Patriots, who lost to the Packers in the Super Bowl in January, have now scored 72 points in their opening two

games — more than any other team — and are playing with such poise and confidence that they are setting the standard for the rest. To the delight of Bledsoe, in particular, the defection of their former coach, Bill Parcells, to New York Jets, appears to have affected them not a jot.

Parcells's honeymoon in New York, which began with a crushing victory over Seattle Seahawks last week, ended at first time since October 18, 1992, a span covering 85

regular-season and play-off games.

With some of the strongest teams from last season, the Patriots and Denver Broncos among them already showing formidable form, Mike Holmgren, the Packers coach, said that the defeat might shake Green Bay out of any complacency lingering from their Super Bowl triumph.

"This is an early wake-up call for us," he said.

RUGBY UNION: CLUB DEMANDS CLARIFICATION AS NEXT ROUND OF EUROPEAN MATCHES APPROACHES

## Bath resort to law on issue of padding

By DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

BATH will seek urgent clarification of the law regarding protective padding for players after their experience in the first round of Heineken Cup matches, at Pontypool on Sunday. Around 30 minutes before the kick-off of a match that Bath ultimately won, their coaching staff were embroiled in legal interpretations that at one stage caused them to wonder whether they should play the game at all.

This is an issue with which rugby union has grappled for

many years and which the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) is still debating. Protective pads or vests have become the norm in the southern hemisphere — both South Africa and the British Isles wore them during the summer series — but Law 4 still forbids shoulder pads or padded undergarments.

Bath, conforming to the law, arrived at Sardis Road to find that Pontypool were preparing to play in vests that Bath believed to be illegal. They contacted other English clubs playing in the competition for immediate clarifica-

tion before going ahead with the game but have now asked Nick Bunting, the Rugby Football Union referee development officer, to handle the matter. It needs to be dealt with swiftly since there is a European Conference game in Galway today and a further round of European fixtures begins on Friday.

"The frustration for us is that when English coaches and referees met in August, we said this would happen, and it did," Andy Robinson, the Bath coaching director, said yesterday. "It's enough to make you tear your hair out when you are proved right but we were told the law would be strictly applied."

"None of our players knew this but it is quite an issue. There is an unfair advantage to be gained from it. Clive Woodward and I talked seriously about whether to play the game because, if a serious injury had occurred, there are all sorts of ramifications. Nor does a referee want to come to

that will not take rugby any closer to American football yet still offer some degree of protection to vulnerable joints can be agreed.

"We have said very clearly that Law 4 should be applied as it is," Vernon Pugh, the IRFB chairman, said. "There are discussions about modification but until that happens, the law must be applied. I think Bath are absolutely right to be upset."

Pugh confirmed that the post of chief executive of the IRFB will shortly be advertised after the resignation last month of Tom Wacker after 15 months in office. Wacker was on a five-year contract but opted to take a release clause after overseeing the transfer of the board from Bristol to Ireland.

"It is a hiatus we could have done without," Pugh said. "Cosmetically there may appear to be a void but knowing what is going on behind the scenes, I don't think there is."

**Robinson: frustrated**

## Pluck of the Irish not enough to prevent Glasgow's victory

Ulster ..... 12

Glasgow ..... 18

By KARL JOHNSTON

AT RAVENHILL last night, Ulster became the third Irish team to fail to sup from the Heineken Cup that cheers, after the defeats of Leinster and Munster over the weekend. Glasgow were obliged to make a few late changes, circumstances that added to the general air of pre-match optimism, but despite two early penalty goals from Stuart Laing, the fly half, that gave Ulster a comfortable six-point cushion within the opening 11 minutes, the home team singularly failed to take the initiative.

True, in the first half, Ulster enjoyed long periods of territorial advantage, but, apart from a fine short-side break by Stephen Bell that all led to a try for Sheldon Coulter on the right wing, they seldom looked like scoring.

In fact, it was at that point that Glasgow took their confidence to a higher level. A scrum followed Coulter's near-miss, Glasgow broke

from defence, Tony Hayes released James Craig and the left wing sped some 60 metres to score, with Hayes landing the easy conversion, having earlier kicked a penalty goal.

Still, it was felt that Ulster would ultimately have the measure of this particular opposition. The pack certainly provided enough ball, but, except on occasions, Laing opted not to spread the ball

Matt Tetlow, the Sale centre, was detained overnight at a French hospital after being concussed in his side's 25-16 defeat by Monferrand in the European Conference on Sunday.

wide, and even when he did, Glasgow were never really bothered by Ulster's midfield probes.

Just before the interval, Ulster self-destructed. Laing attempted a cheeky 22-metre drop-out, but the play went horribly wrong. Glasgow gained possession and Murray Wallace, the flanker, raced over the line on the short side for an unconverted try to leave

Ulster trailing 15-6 at half-time.

Laing dropped a fine goal from a scrum three minutes into the second half and the crowd waited for the revival, which failed to materialise. Admittedly, Ulster were not always helped by Nigel Whitehouse, the referee, who could have used the advantage law more often. That said, though, there was no doubt the merit of Glasgow's victory.

Hayes added a second penalty goal 13 minutes from time, and Laing converted his third minutes before the final whistle.

**SCORING SEQUENCE** (Ulster first): 9-0, 6-3, 6-10, 6-15 (half-time); 9-15, 9-18.

**ULSTER**: R Morrow (Dungannon); J Cunningham (Ballymena), M Field (Merton), J Tolley (Ballymena), S Clark (Merton), S McAllister (Ballymena), S Doherty (Ballymena); R McCusker (Merton), S McNeilly (Ballymena), S Leslie (Dungannon), S McNamee (Ballymena), G Longfield (Ballymena), S McNamee (Ballymena), A Ward (Ballymena), K Gallich (City of Derry), rep. N Wilson, Instonians, Derry.

**GLASGOW**: C Sanger, D Stark, C Shrimps, M McGonigle, J Craig, T Hayes, F McLean, G Bunting (Instonians), M Beckham (rep. Ayrshire), G Bunting (Instonians), G Perrett, M Wallace (Temporary rep. F Wallace), D Shand, D McLeish. Referee: N Whitehouse (Wales).

### WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 42

AZOTEA

(b) The flat roof of a house, used as a place of resort in hot climates. The Spanish word. J. R. Poined. Notes on Mexico, 1824: "We next ascended to the azotea (terrace roof), from whence we had a view of the harbour."

CURIARA

(a) The native name in Venezuela and Colombia for a dug-out canoe. "A network of narrow channels allowed us to explore the far interior in our shallow curiara or dug-out."

FURINT

(c) A type of Bohemian dance, or its music, in quick triple time with frequently-shifting accents. From the Czech name. "The fiddlers who scraped out their furintas and other wild dances."

FUNKIA

(d) A member of the genus of liliaceous plants from Japan once so named, but now called *Hosta*, having racemes of drooping white or blue bell-shaped flowers: a plantain-lily. The eponym of H. C. Fink (1771-1839), a Prussian botanist. "The bold and striking foliage of some of the strongest plain-leaved section of Finkias renders them very effective as edging plants for large beds."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qd4+! Kd1 2 Rb+ Qd5 3 Rh+ and White emerges a rook ahead.

THE TIMES

# GATECRASH WALL STREET.

Anyone can play New Portfolio. There are thousands of portfolios to be won everyday. Your Portfolio card is free in next Tuesday's Times.

CHANGING TIMES

TELEVISION CHOICE

## Tales of unforgettable times

Holiday Memories

BBC1, 7.00pm

Carol Smillie is fast emerging as a rival to Carol Vorderman as television's most conspicuous presenter. The latest vehicle for the giggling host of *Changing Rooms* and *National Lottery Live* is this amiable series in which celebrities and ordinary people recall holidays difficult to forget, even if some are probably best forgotten. But distance can lend enchantment, and even humour, to the most calamitous break. Thus, nine years on, Mr and Mrs Farnell can entertain us with the story of their wedding in Montego Bay, Jamaica, which fell foul of sunstroke, insect bites and Hurricane Hugo. A family holiday in Corfu went little better for Johnny Ball and his daughter, Zoe, who was then 13. Michael Parkinson has fond recollections of trips to Scarborough, where he watched cricket and proposed to his wife, Mary.

The Feel Good Factor

Channel 4, 8.00pm

Health is the topic this week as Mark Little travels to villages in Norfolk and Devon to discover whether country living really is good for us. Although the jocular game show format sometimes grates, the programme succeeds in making serious points. Except that the schoolchildren surveyed had many fewer fillings than the national average, rural life can have disadvantages. In both cases the nearest hospital is more than 20 miles away, though Devon's air ambulance service helps to compensate. On most of the featured tests, in fact, South Zeal in Devon has the edge over Ashill in Norfolk, whether it is access to alternative medicine or the availability of consumer. Villagers of Ashill, who are less likely to have their diet balanced, have to go to a supermarket. It is a bus ride away and the bus runs once a week.

Looking Good

BBC2, 8.30pm

The pre-publicity suggested a fashion series that would buck the trend and appeal to all women, not just good-looking under-35s with perfect figures and money to spend. Although this is only programme two, the evidence has yet to emerge. On the contrary, the emphasis seems to be on



Michael Parkinson (BBC1, 7.00pm)

getting out the credit card and following the edicts of the fashion pages. There is not much here for the woman of a certain age, who is bigger than a size 12 and needs to watch her budget. One item reveals that French women on average spend twice as much on cosmetics and beauty products as their British counterparts. Representing the Brits is Louise, who buys her undies at Marks & Spencer and wears them until they fall apart. Instead of applauding her practicality, the show ticks her off for using wire hangers and gives her an expensive French-style makeover.

Paul Merton in *Galton and Simpson's...*

ITV, 8.30pm

Ray Galton and Alan Simpson were Tony Hancock's writers and there is more than a touch of Hancock in this comedy playlet about a man who volunteers for a police identity parade and is picked out as the culprit. Like the other scripts in this series, *The Winding Man* goes back several decades. Perhaps it should be updated with jokes about Cherie Blair. It hardly needs them for Galton and Simpson not only wrote marvellous comic dialogue but also supplied an ingredient so many current sitcoms lack: a plot. All the same, *The Winding Man* is no masterpiece, but Paul Merton squeezes the most out of it. The keen-eyed will spot Galton and Simpson as the two white-haired men in the ID parade.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

F1 Sci — Fiction Science Not Science Fiction

Radio 4, 2.00pm

The centenary of the Women's Institute could hardly pass unnoticed and even though Radio 2 has successfully taken on a younger image of late, the network is the right place for this particular programme, which has been written as a dramatic dialogue. There are a dozen ways to convey the history of an organisation but the one chosen is among the more imaginative. June Whitfield and Jean Boht play two WI women who are working through the contents of the WI archive. The organisation will not be best pleased with the programme title, notwithstanding the question mark, for there is clearly more to the WI than preserves and hymns and it has done some effective political lobbying over the years.

RADIO 1

7.00am Kevin Greening 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 2.00pm Nicki Chapman 4.00 Dave Pearce 6.15 Wednesday 6.30 Evening Session with Steve Lamacq 8.00 Digital Update 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Charlie Jordan 1.00am Clive Wearing 4.00 Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up To Wogan 8.30 Ken Stewart 11.30 Jeremy Walker 1.30 Carol Dade Classics 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.15 Johnnie Walker 7.00 Carl Davis Classics 8.00 Wayne Marshall's Organ Spectacular. The first of an eight-part series in which Wayne Marshall plays popular classics on the organ of the Bridgewater Hall 9.00 Mike 'Em' Laughton 9.30 Jam and Jerusalem. See Choice 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.00 Steve Macdonald 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 3 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 9.00 The Magazine 12.05 Midday With Mar 2.00 Ruscoe on Five 12.00 Julian Worricker Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The Tuesday Match. Includes action from the Nationwide Cup and the fourth round of the Scottish Coca-Cola Cup 10.00 News Talk 11.00 News Extra with Anne Webster 12.00 Afternoon 2.00pm Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

RADIO 4

6.00am On Air, with Penny Gore. Includes A Scarlatti (Save Regina); Ravel (Introduction and Allegro); Handel (Flute Sonata in A minor, HWV274); Hallenser No 1; Tchaikovsky (Marche Slave); Glazunov (Alia Spagnuolo Orientale, Novelettes, Op 15); Weber (Konzertstück in F minor)

9.00 Proms Collection, introduced by Callum Scott (Proms 87, Emanuel Ax, piano, European Union Youth Orchestra, under Bernard Haitink; Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 4 in G) 8.05 To the Glory of God, Stephen Johnson explores the organ's sound and discovers what inspired his musical structure 8.25 Concert, two, Bruckner (Symphony No 7 in E)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris de Souza, includes Scriabin (Prelude in G sharp minor, Op 16 No 2); Stravinsky (Rite of Spring); Prokofiev (Violin Sonata No 1, Op 80); Strauss (Schiachgesang, Op 15 No 1); Jadin (String Quartet, Op 3 No 1); Berg (Violin Concerto in E minor); Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in E minor)

12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Verdi 1.00pm News; Summer Ensemble, Cuorli Quartet, Verdi (String Quartet in G minor, Op 20 No 3); Haydn (String Quartet in D minor, Op 20 No 2); 2.00 BBC Proms 87, Alfredo Pen, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, under Bernard Haitink; BBC Singers and Philharmonia Chorus (Sinfonia DRS6; Gruppe aus dem Tartarus, DRS8; Enrme; Der Pilgrim; Schwanengesang) 5.00 Music Machine. The second of five programmes from the Queen Katherine School in Kendal, with Tommy Pearson (r)

12.30am Schubert Song Cycles. The last of three concert performances at the Wigmore Hall in London, led by Sir Peter Pears (Soprano), Dame Barbara Bonney (Mezzo), Dame Emma Kirkby (Soprano), Eric Schneider, piano. (Sehnsucht, DRS6; Gruppe aus dem Tartarus, DRS8; Enrme; Der Pilgrim; Schwan

# Playwright brings back capital punishment

**I**t's still early days in *Tony Marchant's Holding On* (BBC2), but one thing you can feel pretty sure about in this new eight-part drama about the grislier aspects of surviving in 1990s London is that the English Tourist Board won't be nagging Marchant for copies to use in its promotional "Visit Britain" campaigns.

*Holding On* is the television equivalent of a Leonard Cohen record — seductive, but depressing at the same time: television to commit suicide by. It will make all those country mice who trill about their uninterrupted green views trill that little bit more, though what they don't realise is that we Londoners actually regard uninterrupted green views as insipid deserts between one hubbub of activity and another — deserts which are made doubly inconvenient by the lack of passing taxis.

If you found *Short Cuts*, Robert Altman's mesmerising collage of

Los Angeles life, depressing, then you might do better to skip this series altogether. Along with *Short Cuts*, Marchant draws inspiration from two other portraits of cities in a state: Tom Wolfe's *Bonfire of the Vanities* and Dickens's *Our Mutual Friend* — only Marchant swaps Dickens's Thames for the London Underground, whose strap-hangers (hence *Holding On*) have been turned into zombies by years of abuse, injustice, complicity and indifference. And outside the Tube, life is often even worse.

As with *Short Cuts*, Marchant has assembled a cast of characters who collide and scatter like snooker balls, only to collide again later. Tycoons, tax inspectors, temps and taxi drivers find their lives are woven together like a plait.

In this opening episode

Marchant pulls off the trick of giving us a tour of his broad tapestry without losing us in the maze of mini-plots that he has just

set up. The dialogue doesn't jar. There are none of the diamond geezers which serve as television shorthand for seedy London. Everyone seems ordinary, plausible, which is what gives the resulting chaos its punch: something similar could be waiting for any one of us around the next corner.

**A**ll the cast shine, although Phil Daniels — who must be glad to have found a new glow to bask in after loitering so long in the one from *Quadrophenia* — has been lucky to draw one of the more flamboyant roles. He plays Gary Rickey, a boozey, bed-hopping, Jack-the-Lad restaurant critic with a professionally unhelpful digestive problem. It's a role that underlines the power of Marchant's imagination since few real-life restaurant critics match such a description.

However, Marchant claims to have inserted colourful caricatures

## REVIEW



**Joe Joseph**

from the London media scene into the text, so people will be trying to spot the real people behind the fiction: all you could say for certain is that Gary Rickey is not based on Andrew Lloyd-Webber's dining column in *The Daily Telegraph*.

The tone of *Holding On* was conveyed most tellingly in the final sequence of last night's programme. A minicab driver, waiting for his client outside a

restaurant in a busy road, witnesses the murder in a telephone box of Sally Friel (Fleur Mould) — a young temp who is being sexually harassed by her boss and has just plucked up the courage to report him. She is stabbed repeatedly in the belly by Alan, a disturbed schizophrenic (Sean Gallagher) who has been released under the Care in the Community scheme (does that ring any bells in real life?) for want of either an empty hospital bed or a concerned enough doctor. What does the cabbie do? Chase after the murderer? Call the police? No. He slowly winds up his window. Then? He locks all the doors. It's not what you call an optimistic note, but, increasingly, an authentic one.

Listen to this snippet, for example: "It's the worst kind of murder," said Sarah. "I's the worst because if Nina and Jack had been murdered by a stranger, I could forever wonder how come we were

at that place at that time. But to know that their dad quite deliberately did it is very, very difficult."

**W**hat's really depressing about Sarah Heatey's misery is that she isn't even a character in *Holding On* — in Channel 4's *Citizen's Arrest*, Sarah's estranged husband, Dr Sukdev Sandhu, known as "Dave", murdered their children Nina, 4, and Jack, 3. He then jumped from a tower block to his own death. OK, it was in Sheffield, not Tony Marchant's London, but there are similar cases of murder followed by suicide involving children every six weeks somewhere in Britain.

Dave murdered the children while they were visiting him. Sarah didn't want to stop her children visiting their father, but because of his history of psychiatric problems and of wife-beating, she wanted the visits supervised.

The courts didn't see it that way. If others won't watch over them, it's little wonder that more and more people decide to watch over themselves: and cabbies wind up their windows when they see a woman murdered in a phone box. You can't even stay at home, bolt the front door and watch *Mastermind* any more. But as a postscript to the show's 25-year reign, BBC1 brought us *Mastermind* — It's Started Now. It's Finished, a documentary to mark its passing. It can be safer to let these things pass unexamined: scratching too deeply can make you wonder what you ever saw in it. Here, for example, is the secretary of the Mastermind Club, which contestants can join: "In 1990 I thought it would be interesting to find the profile of an average *Mastermind* contestant and I came up with someone who is not very interesting. I have to be honest." Well, now that you mention it...

BBC1
6.00am Business Breakfast (72266)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (98247083)
9.05 Referendum Call: Scotland Edward Stourton chairs a live phone-in. Simultaneous broadcast with Radio 4 (816718)
9.55 Kirov (T) (5972441)
10.35 Change That (1062257)
11.00 News (T) regional news and weather (4343435)
11.05 The Really Useful Show (T) (9374354)
11.35 Room for Improvement (2945354)
12.00 News (T) regional news and weather (6804557)
12.05am Call My Bluff (9122448)
12.35 Going for a Song (905809)
1.00 One O'Clock News (T) and weather (70731)
1.30 Regional News and weather (T) (17982335)
1.40 The Weather Show (87847248)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (77625828)
2.10 Quirky (T) (5947261)
3.00 Through the Keyhole (7346996)
3.25 Playdays (T) (7358731) 3.50 Peter Pan and the Pirates (T) (8971847) 4.10 Rugrats (T) (4165373) 4.30 Agent Z and the Penguin from Mars (T) (T) (6159712) 5.00 Newsround (T) (9561248) 5.10 Byker Grove (T) (545644)
5.35 Neighbours (T) (641170)
6.00 Six O'Clock News and weather (793)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (373)
7.00 <b>Holiday Memories</b> New series. Zoe Bell and her father Johnny revisit Corrie and Michael Parkinson returns to Scarborough, where he proposed to his wife Mary; a couple renew their wedding vows in Jamaica (T) (5847)
7.30 EastEnders All is not well in the Mitchell family; (T) (557)
8.00 Vets in Practice Fiona and Trude face the task of informing devoted owners their pets have cancer (1267)
8.30 Tiger Bay Beth breaks shocking news to Sonny. Les in series (3002)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (T) and weather (2354)
9.30 Rory McGrath's Commercial Breakdown Weird TV adverts from around the world, revealing what Norwegians really think of the British: a wedding and a funeral (T) (43002) Wales: 9.30 Referendum '97: The Devolution Debates (523460) 10.20 Rory McGrath's Commercial Breakdown (725793) 10.50 Inside Story Special (305712) 11.55 FILM: Legal Eagles (431899) 145 FILM: <i>Flewby</i> (1154) 3.25 News Headlines and Weather (86766565)
10.00 Inside Story Special (T) (4158809)
11.05 Cluey Down Under (1990) starring Tom Selleck and Alan Rickman. An Australian western directed by Simon Wincer (924151)
1.00am Fitzwillie (1967) Comedy with Dick van Dyke, Barbara Feldon and Edith Bunker. Directed by Delbert Mann (144132)
2.40 Weather (7393836)

## BBC2

6.00am Open University: Hardwick Hall (4962083) 6.25 Coverture: Dimanche en Anjou (4981118) 6.50 Rural Life: Image and Reality (578118) 7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T) (4829538) 7.30 Smurfs' Adventures (6391015) 7.55 Blue Peter (T) (5915733) 8.20 Oakey Doke (7640248) 8.30 Rupert (T) (7717838) 8.35 Teletubbies (1597035) 9.00 Harry and the Hendersons (2184151) 9.25 Power Moves: Gymnast (2910606) 9.30 See Hear (27046) 10.00 Teletubbies (22606)
10.00 Working Lunch (10286)
11.00 TUC Conference Live coverage of the conference, including the speech by the Archbishop of Canterbury (58335)
1.00pm Working Lunch Update (3282649)
1.10 The Craft Hour (4830624)
2.10 News (T) and weather (3237406)
2.15 TUC Conference Tony Blair's keynote speech (3931644)
3.35 News (T) (6420712) 4.00 Ready, Steady, Cook (286) 4.30 Going, Gone (6158034) 4.55 Esther: Come (3699034) 5.30 Today's the Day (422)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air Uncle Phil plans a lavish dinner party for his boss (T) (34547) WALES: 6.00 Heartbreak High (486977) 6.45 Soccer: FAW Invitation Cup (4262151) 9.00 Looking Good (4016)
6.25 Heartbreak High Students are spooked by a mysterious figure roaming the corridors (645793)
7.10 The O Zone Elton John, Kylie Minogue and Louise talk about their new releases and future plans (350198)
7.30 Desperately Seeking Donna Documentary about singer Donna Lewis (199)
8.00 Return to the Home Front Anne McEvitt sings the praises of cost-effective wooden houses (23) (8609)

## HTV

6.00am GMTV (7735195)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (2181064)
9.35 Regional News (T) (1648625)
10.00 The Time, the Place (42460)
10.30 This Morning (1845928)
12.20pm Regional News (6833411)
12.30 ITV Lunchtime News (T) (9081606)
12.55 Shortland Street (T) (7756195)
1.25 Home and Away (58772326)
1.50 Remote Control Cooking (77631489)
2.20 Venessa (75941170)
2.50 The Natural Health Show (6300199)
3.20 ITN News (T) (4320731)
3.25 Regional News (T) (4329002)
3.30 The Riddlers (1082648) 3.40 Wizard of Paddington Bear (7818064) 4.00 Sylvester and Tweety Pie Mysteries (2152267) 4.15 Name That Toon! (4159712) 4.40 Knight School (7756195)
5.10 Relative Knowledge (2998880)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (T) (891248)
6.00 Home and Away Shannon and Lachie put the fun back into their relationship (T) (478)
6.25 HTV Weather (688199)
6.30 The West Tonight (441)
7.00 Emmerdale Kim takes pleasure in turning down Lord Alex (T) (1165)
7.30 People and Pets Jenny Hull discovers a terrier education centre (625)
8.00 The Bill Daily and Blake are forced to release their prime suspect for a vicious sexual assault. Can they prove his guilt before he strikes again? (2/2) (T) (5335)
8.30 <b>Emmerdale</b> Paul Merton in Galton and Simpson's <i>The Wrong Man</i> . Paul ambles along to his local police station to report a minor domestic incident (8170)

## WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6883441)
12.55 Home and Away (4721538)
1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (2253957)
1.50-2.00 Home and Away (2998880)
2.00-2.30 Westcountry Live (33825)
2.30-3.00 Westcountry Dynasties (625)

## ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.19pm Anglia One Watch (889248)
12.55-1.25 Country Practice (909625)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2998880)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (33825)

## S4C

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